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THE WORKING CLASSES AND THEIR STRIKES.

THE extraordinary prosperity of the country—caused, in the first instance, by the beneficial operation of Free-trade, and, in the second, by the influx of gold from California and Australia—has not been checked in any considerable degree by the numerous strikes of the working classes. There has been a risk of evil consequences, but none of magnitude has occurred. But even in these cases the mischief has affected the employed in a far greater degree than the employers. Such has always been the result of strikes, and such it will always be. There never was a strike that did not injure the working men who resorted to such an extremity. They have, no doubt, a legal, a moral, and a natural right to combine to raise the price of the commodity in which they deal—their labour; but all experience has shown that the exercise of the right is more prejudicial to themselves than to others. In striking, they wage a war against their own interests, and destroy that capital which is the only fund out of which they can be remunerated.

The recent strikes which have occurred in all parts of the country are resolvable into three distinct classes: the first comprises unskilled labourers; the second, skilled workmen or artificers; and the third, the privileged or salaried servants of the people. In the case of the first-mentioned, strikes are peculiarly unfortunate, for there is always in this country a large reserve of mere brute labour, which can, at short notice, be rendered available to replace any loss of hands. Thus, labourers at the Docks, when they combine to leave their employment, and to insist upon higher wages than they have been accustomed to receive, may have all possible justice in their claim, as well as in their manner of urging it, and yet be inevitably defeated, after a short struggle. But their defeat arises,

not from any tyranny or injustice on the part of those who employ them, but from the inexorable laws of nature and society. It is their own fellows who render the strike an act of unavailing self-sacrifice. It is the superabundance of the commonest kind of labour—that which is unskilled, and differs but in degree from the labour of horses and oxen—that immediately rushes into the place which the malcontents have left vacant, that makes such strikes short-lived, and that should teach the working classes the folly of depriving themselves of their bread. Strikes of this kind cause but temporary inconvenience to the employer, but are always productive of deep suffering, if not of pauperism and crime, to the employed.

In the case of skilled labourers and artisans, strikes are far more injurious to the masters than in the former, while they are, at the same time, equally injurious to the men. Among labourers of this class, who have recently struck, may be mentioned the various handicraftsmen employed in the trades of building in London and other large towns; the carpet-weavers of Kidderminster; the pattern-drawers and the print-cutters of Paisley; the dyers, dressers, and finishers of Manchester; the pitmen of the English coal districts; the iron-workers in some parts of Wales and Staffordshire; the smiths in Devonport Dockyard; and various other artificers more or less skilled. In these places and trades the men have made demands both reasonable and unreasonable. The joiners of Leeds struck work to obtain an additional hour's leisure on Saturday, with a slight increase of wages. Their request was acceded to. The probability is that the employers will be no losers by the first concession, and that the workmen will make full amends for the one hour of leisure on Saturday by their zeal and attention during the remainder of the week. We are not aware of the reasons which induced the masters to yield on the point of wages; but, if they have submitted to coercion, they will in due time find means to restore things to their former

condition; and the men will be none the better for any sacrifices they may have made. The Paisley men have attempted a piece of tyranny—the limitation of the number of apprentices that masters shall be allowed to take—and will doubtless fail in their object. The pitmen of the Wear and Tyne are both right and wrong in the demands which they have made; right in insisting that the inspection of collieries shall be real and effective, but wrong in expecting that their wages must of necessity rise because their food has become dearer. In the neighbourhood of Dowlais, the demands of the men for extra wages, on account of the increased price of bread and animal food, have led to the temporary extinction of upwards of a dozen blast furnaces. In these last, and many other instances which might be cited, the working men are so entirely wrong, that their success will be impossible, except upon the supposition that their masters will consent to ruin themselves by paying more for labour than labour is worth. Experience ought to have proved, if not to unskilled, at least to skilled labourers, that the price of wages and the price of food have no necessary connection with each other. If skilled or unskilled labour be scarce, it must of necessity be dear, whatever the price of bread or meat may happen to be. *Vice versa*, if bread and meat, or any other commodity, be scarce in consequence of an insufficient supply, or from an increased consumption, on the part of hundreds of thousands or of a million of people, who, in times less prosperous, had not enough of these necessities, the price of food must rise, whatever may be the wages of labour.

No doubt the working classes expect, and ought to partake of, the prosperity caused by Free-trade and the influx of gold. That they do partake in it, and far more largely than any other class, is apparent on every side we turn. It is not so much the steady working man, skilled in his business, and in the receipt of good wages, who profits by these favourable circumstances, though it



FETE OF THE EMPEROR, AT PARIS.—"THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD," IN THE CHAMP DE MARS.—(SEE PAGE 130.)

may happen that such a man may get constant work and good wages where formerly he was employed for only one-half or two-thirds of his time. Those who receive the benefit most largely are the men who in this country once exhibited the saddest spectacle under heaven, that of strong men able and willing to work, but finding none to employ them. Men, who in times of less general prosperity and less active trade, had irregular, have been enabled to procure regular employment; and those who had nothing to do, have found a demand for their services, because more houses and ships are built, because more iron and coal are consumed, because more cloth is made, and because more luxuries of every kind are in requisition. To demand higher wages, therefore, merely because food is dearer, is inconsequential and unjust. As a general rule, the employers of labour will never accede to such demands. If, in any particular instance, they accede to them, it is from local and exceptional causes; and such an arrangement can be but temporary. The natural laws which regulate such matters are as steady as the tides; and the working classes, as a body, can no more resist them than they can resist the law of gravitation. In urging such claims they often commit incalculable evil. In some cases, they force a staple manufacture into a new district, and ruin an ancient town; in others, they run the risk of exiling the employer and his capital to another country, where he can have a fairer chance of success. In the unfortunate dispute among the tailors, some years ago, the strike led to the employment of women and children, at wages far lower than those of men, and to the permanent diminution of the reward of labour in that particular department of industry. In other, and not rare cases, strikes have led to the invention of machinery to supersede manual labour altogether. We do not believe that there is a single case upon record in which a protracted strike among skilled labourers led to any other result than injury to themselves and their families.

The third class of strikes to which we have alluded has its examples in those of the cab-drivers of London and Edinburgh, and of the police force in some of the principal cities and towns in the kingdom. Strikes of this kind are very different from those of labourers and artificers. Ordinary working men have a right to strike if they please. If they think they can better their condition by refusing to work until they can obtain higher wages, it is their privilege to do so. Their labour and their time are their own. They are under no obligation to hire out either the one or the other; and, although their conduct may be prompted by ignorance, or even by rapacity, they are guilty of no breach of faith, and of no legal offence, in endeavouring to make the best bargain they can. But the case of cabmen and policemen is widely different. The cabman is a public servant: he and his fellows are allowed a certain privilege and monopoly; and any extraneous interloper into their business, not duly licensed to compete with them, is liable to fine and imprisonment. In striking work, as the London cabmen did a few weeks ago, the privilege and the monopoly were virtually forfeited, by a scandalous breach of an implied, if not expressed, contract. Were people as free to establish cabs and hackney-carriages, and to ply them in the streets for hire, as they are to establish tailors' or bakers' shops, cabmen might strike as legally as tailors or bakers can now do; but as long as the system of licensing protects cabmen from unlicensed competition, their simultaneous cessation of work without fair and reasonable notice, is as reprehensible and illegal as a strike among domestic servants would be. Servants are bound to give a month's notice if they desire to discontinue their service; and the same rule in equity, if not in law, holds good with all public servants, cabmen and omnibus drivers included. A strike among policemen is still more serious. The law foresaw this danger as regards the military and naval service of the country. If soldiers refused to march till they received an augmentation of pay, or if the crew of a man-of-war refused to navigate the vessel till their demands, right or wrong, were complied with, the peril would be too imminent to be endured. Hence the law decreed that a strike among soldiers or sailors was a mutiny; an offence which, in time of war, is the most serious which it is possible to commit, and which in time of peace is punished in as severe a manner as the state of public opinion will admit. Policemen are but soldiers of a different class, and a strike among them is quite as reprehensible, if not quite as dangerous, as one among the military. We do not intend to assert that the ordinary laws of demand and supply which regulate the wages of labour among handicraftsmen do not apply to policemen, or that it is unreasonable in these civic soldiers to demand an increase of wages at a time when there is a general increase in the price of articles of consumption. Their demands, if respectfully urged, would meet with proper attention; but, if accompanied by threats, they are removed from the legal to the illegal category. In such a case the policeman forgets his true position, exposes society to a real peril, and forces the Legislature to make laws that shall meet the unforeseen emergency. Whatever may be the result of the various strikes that are now agitating the country, it is certain that strikes among cabmen, and especially among policemen, will, in future times, be considered as things apart, and treated accordingly.

HOW WARS ARE GOT UP IN AFRICA.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Sir,—As Mr. Cobden has shown us in what manner wars are got up in India, might he not also usefully turn his attention to the manner in which they are got up in Africa; and to the execution of the negro chiefs, of which an account was given in one of your recent Numbers, with an engraving? Such cases as these; and the Lagos business, where we had killed or wounded near a hundred of our own people, surely require investigation.

Yours, &c.,

NIGER.

VEGETABLE DIET.—At the sixth annual banquet of the Vegetarian Society, recently held in the Town-hall, Salford, the chairman observed:—"It was notorious, that the hard work of the world was done upon a vegetable diet; the strongest men upon earth were men who subsisted, not on the products of the animal kingdom, but upon fruits and corn. The porter of Smyrna, who carried six or eight hundred weight on his head or shoulders, might be cited as an instance of this. The Vegetarian Society had now more than 800 members, many of whom had carried on the practice for many years; he (the chairman) could point out, among the persons around him, eight individuals who had an aggregate of 330 years' experience of vegetable diet; or an average of 41 years' abstinence from flesh, fish, and fowl."

The captain of the *Sydney Griffiths*, from Luncheonston, reports having seen a comet, bearing south-west, on the 1st of May last, when in lat. 52 S., long. 130 W.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

By the arrival of the Indian Mail we are in possession of intelligence from India, Australia, and China. The dates of departure were—Bombay, the 2nd July; Calcutta, 2nd July; Alexandria, 5th August; Hong-Kong, 23rd June.

At Burmah matters remain in nearly the same state as at the date of the last advices, and anything like a treaty between the Court of Ava and ourselves appears to be as far off as ever. Nothing is known regarding the intentions of the King of Ava. The Burmese appear still to expect us to advance on their capital, and as yet confine themselves to defensive measures. From the decks of the steamers new stockades are seen rising between Prome and Meeaday.

It is reported that Meeah Toon is concentrating and collecting the Burmese army somewhere between Ava and Ameerapoor; but so little note seems to be taken by the Supreme Government, that it is the Governor-General's intention to break up the field force at Rangoon and throughout the Burmese provinces, and to garrison the posts, and legislate for the country now in our hands, as if the country had been ours for the last ten years. The three general officers now in Pegu are to be, as a matter of course, withdrawn, and the whole province is to be divided into two divisional commands, one of these to be held by the Madras, and the other by Bengal troops. The army of the former presidency is to provide troops to hold the southern and western districts, from Moulmein up the Sitang river to Tonghoo; and the corps from the latter presidency will have to garrison the northern and north-west provinces from Meeaday down to Prome and Rangoon. Whether the treaty is or is not signed by the Burmese Commissioners will signify little or nothing. The provinces demanded from the Court of Ava by the Governor-General are now in our possession; and, although the Burmese may, and no doubt will, annoy our outposts, it is doubtful whether they will do more than make a few incursions into the territory within the limits of our boundary. For the next couple of years, therefore, a series of border forays may be looked for such as to this hour are of more than monthly occurrence upon our north-west frontier; but beyond these there is nothing to fear from the remnants of the Burmese army.

A famine appears to be impending in Burmah. Owing to the disturbed state of the lower provinces scarcely any seed was sown last season; and at present rice bears a famine price even at Rangoon and Pegu, and Government is urged to lose no time in importing it in large quantities from Calcutta.

PROGRESS OF THE CHINESE REBELLION.

The China mail which arrived at Bombay on the 24th of June brought no news from Shanghai, owing to the north China mails having been lost at sea on the 2nd of May on board the *Larriston*.

The progress of the Chinese rebels, or rather of the "patriot army," as it is now called by our eastern informants, continues as wonderful as ever. With only a few days' notice, they appeared one morning at Amoy, and by mid-day had the whole of the city in their possession. As Amoy is 700 miles in the rear of the main army at Nankin, the mere fact of several thousand men suddenly making their appearance at the former place in well-equipped boats, with arms, provisions, a perfect plan of operations, and the certainty that the inhabitants would be on their side, shows that the movement is literally popular and universal. The people of Amoy, including the wharf coolies, and other classes employed at the port, hailed the insurgents as deliverers, and immediately rose on the Tartar authorities, and destroyed the Custom-house and other public buildings, taking special precautions not to endanger the houses and property of the English and other foreigners. Both by water and by land the Mandarins made a weak pretence of opposition, firing from the warjunks at such a distance that they could do no possible harm, and defending the citadel with so little zeal that ten men killed or hurt by accidental explosions were all the casualties of the day. In return for their forbearance, the Imperialists were allowed to escape, and, unless they are of the proscribed race, are probably by this time in the ranks of the "patriot army." The very day after the capture of Amoy the shops were opened, business was resumed, foreigners were unmolested, and, indeed, more at liberty than before. It was plain that the inhabitants had been fully prepared for their visitors, and only waited their arrival to throw off a painful yoke. Under the unassuming name of "the Small Knife Society" most of them had long been enrolled against the Tartar dynasty, which it now appears was so odious that any man might safely be a member of some treasonable association with the thinnest possible veil of secrecy over it.

The Hong Kong papers contain some further particulars regarding Sir G. Bonham's trip up the Yang-tse-Kiang. It appears that the unsuccessful attempt of the *Susquehanna* to get up the river to the assistance of the Imperialists at Nankin was thought at Shanghai to have irritated the insurgents greatly against the foreign community in general, and it was, therefore, deemed advisable to despatch the interpreter to the British Consulate to the rebel headquarters to explain that the English were neutral. On arriving at Nankin Sir G. Bonham at first intended to meet the rebel leaders in person; but, considering that such an interview might be regarded as unjustifiable in the friendly state of our relations with the reigning Emperor, he eventually only sent the Consulate interpreter and some of the officers of the *Hermes* on shore. One of the latter, who is said to be unlikely to form an erroneous estimate, mentions that the insurgent army encamped at Nankin numbers 80,000 men, well equipped, and, from what was seen of them, in a state of proper discipline—officers paying nightly visits to out-lying pickets, and observing all the formulae of regularly-drilled troops.

The capture of Amoy (one of the five ports, and situate about 450 miles north of Canton and 700 south of Shanghai) on the 15th of May, is one of the first operations of the insurgents which they have effected under the eyes of Europeans. The following details will be read with interest:—

AMOI, May 19.

For several days past business has been completely at an end. On the 14th inst., the authorities notified the English Consul of the near approach of some 3500 rebels, who on that day had invested Hai-Teng, a walled town, about twelve miles up the Chang-Chow river, and beleaguered the chief mandarin of the place. On the 15th the opium store-shops were, at the request of the English Consul, moved into the inner harbour to be in readiness to protect more effectually the residents, some of whom sent their valuables on board.

Till half-past four a.m. of the 18th all remained quiet, but about that time large numbers of boats of all descriptions and sizes, bearing red flags and filled with men, were descried approaching each extremity of the town. The Chinese Admiral got his fleet under way, and kept up an ineffective fire on the boats; but, whether owing to the want of wind or inclination, the junks kept a good distance off, so the landing of the rebels was almost unopposed. The first boats could scarcely have reached the shore, when it became evident that nearly all the wharf coolies, boatmen, policemen, and labourers of the city, and the rebel army, and only waited the arrival of the leader to appear as such. The public offices in the suburbs were immediately broken open and sacked; one or two of them were burnt; but this dangerous way of destroying them was not employed, save in the outskirts. The destruction of the Custom-house, from its proximity to the foreign hongs, was a scene of interest to the inhabitants of the latter; and the systematic manner in which the Custom-house and the residence of its shroffs were sacked, without the slightest injury being offered to any of the neighbouring houses, attracted much notice; the work being performed by men apparently of the lowest order, armed with knives, spears, and matchlocks, and whose appearance would justify the belief that they were an infuriated mob let loose for the purpose of destroying the town; yet most efficient system of control is kept up by the society. The Taow-tae did not arrive, and though the city continued to hold out, the natives never seemed to doubt its submission to the rebels. It appears, besides, many members of the society were introduced previously into the city; the garrison had nearly all joined the society, and only waited a favourable occasion to open the gates and admit the rebel force. A slack desultory fire was kept up till about noon, when it became quiet. Probably, fatigue and hunger dictated the propriety of a short truce. An hour or two later the garrison opened the gates and allowed the rebels to enter unmolested, joining with them, so that the Mandarins were quite helpless; but no desire to capture them seems to have existed, for, while the four gates were thrown open, only by three did the rebels enter, the fourth being left purposely to facilitate the escape of any who wished—a privilege they all availed themselves of. About this time the Admiral, with most of his junks, retreated round the island to sea, and has not since returned. Several of the junks he left behind have been burnt. The rebels from the main land continued to pour in in large numbers, while thousands of the inhabitants joined their bands, all armed, and every party carrying a flag. Shortly after it was known that the rebels were in possession of the citadel a party of foreigners proceeded thither to see how matters were being conducted. After being admitted into the city, they were allowed to visit the different public buildings without the slightest molestation; and while in the city, the chief of the rebel force promised them to send a guard to protect the foreign hongs against plunder, which it was feared they would be much exposed to at night. The streets, both in and outside the walls, are literally crowded with rebels, but no sign whatever appears of injury to a

single private house. A large body of rebels patrolled the streets last night, and to-day everything appears quiet; most of the shops in this neighbourhood are open, and confidence appears returning among the natives; while the foreigners are at a loss to account for the quiet and orderly manner in which the rebels conduct themselves. What arrangements the insurgents are about to make for the government of the place we do not know; they say they will offer the governorship to the late Taow-tai, who, as we before stated, is very much liked; but it is not at all likely he will accept it. To-day many of the rebels are being embarked, it is said, for Tong-wa. The election of the Tartar authorities from the place has been effected with very little fighting; we do not suppose the deaths amount to ten, and the few wounded we have seen appear to have suffered much from the explosion of gunpowder. We hope the order and quiet which at present prevail will continue, and that business will soon be practicable; until, however, the character of those to be intrusted with the government of the place be known, no opinion can be formed as to the security of property there.

The following is from another account:—

The citadel was taken at two p.m., and order immediately restored. The shops are expected to be opened to-morrow. The British merchants went through the city afterwards, and were well received by the insurgent chiefs, who sent a guard of 150 men to protect the foreign factories, and another guard to the British Consulate. Had the insurgents behaved as European troops generally do after the capture of a town by storm, the lives and property of the European community would have been seriously endangered, especially as there was not a single vessel of war on the spot—an omission on the part of the naval commander-in-chief which is severely commented upon. It is also observed that the European communities at two other of the five ports, viz. Ning-po and Tah-chow-foo, are similarly unprotected.

It is expected that Canton will be next attacked. Reports are current that, within a day's march of the city, large bodies of rebels are ready for attack at a given signal; and it is greatly to be regretted that we have not such a steamer as the *Phlegathon* or *Nemesis* moored off the factories.

A letter from Hong-Hong, dated June 23, superadds the following particulars relative to the state of affairs in China:—

Canton remains quiet; but an uneasy feeling exists, and petty robberies are being committed in the suburbs. More than once a threatened attack on the city has been rumoured to take place, but nothing of consequence has occurred, and every precaution is taken to prevent an outbreak.

From Shanghai we have dates to the 9th inst., by the French war steamer *Cassini*; and from Ching-Kiang-foo we have advices to the 30th ult. An attack had been made on that fort by the Imperial fleet, but all attempts to dislodge the insurgents were, from their favourable position, unsuccessful; and it is reported disaffection existed among the foreigners in the service of the Taoutai, and that the fleet was likely to return to Shanghai. At Nankin the insurgents continued to fortify that place, and other cities they hold near it, and the impression was they would make no forward movement till the cold weather set in. Nothing has been mentioned of the movements of the grand Imperial army around Nankin.

Our dates from Amoy are to the 18th inst. The rebels were fortifying the place against a threatened attack of the Imperialists. The forced contributions levied on the inhabitants caused great discontent, and many were shipping off their valuables, and setting the rebels at defiance. Great distress prevailed among the lower orders, and it would be a relief to have the old Government back.

Foo-chow-foo remained quiet on the 12th inst. Much excitement existed, as the rebels were reported close at hand. The Tartar troops were practising daily. The rebellion had broken out at Shang-foo, some distance in the interior. We learn that all the pirates handed over to the Mandarins by her Majesty's steamer *Rattler* had been beheaded.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China is actually in possession of a fleet, manned by Englishmen, consisting of six ships of war, mounting 98 guns. We give the list, and our readers will be astonished and gratified on reading it, to find how fast Chinese prejudices are melting away before the advancement of the age. Here are Chinese ships with English names and English commanders. This fleet—we doubt not, ably commanded, manned, and armed—is about to proceed to the attack of Chin-keang. If Europeans have been lending themselves, as well as their ships—which would not astonish us—there is a possibility of the city once more reverting to the Tartar; but if it be only the Chinese "braves" who are to do this, it is not likely that anything beyond the expenditure of powder and ball will take place. We learn that a marine and eight of the crew of her Majesty's steamer *Salamander* have deserted, and are supposed to have taken service in his Imperial Majesty's fleet. The *Sir Herbert Compton*, the *Eliza*, and two lorchas, lying off Shanghai, belonging to the Imperial fleet, have been ordered by Captain Fishbourne, of the *Hermes*, not to quit their anchorages until these men have been brought back. Captain Fishbourne is likely to find that high pay and booty, or what in the East is called "loot," may have the effect of inducing further desertions.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S FLEET IN THE YANG-TZE.

Agnes	Ebsworthy	28 guns.
Antelope	Ayer	12 "
Boxer	6 "
Clown	Rees	12 "
Dewan	Robinson	12 "
Sir Herbert Compton	Brown	28 "

The orderly behaviour of the captors of Amoy immediately after the storming of the town, and the civility of the rebels to the Europeans, both on that occasion and also at Nankin, have justified the expectations now generally entertained, that the establishment of the Ming dynasty will terminate the vexatious restrictions to foreign trade and intercourse that have hitherto prevailed.

The United States squadron for Japan were at Looscho. The United States steam-frigate *Powhatan* had arrived at Singapore. As soon as she joins the squadron Commodore Perry will proceed on his mission to Japan—the result of which will be looked forward to with great interest, not only by the United States, but by all British subjects in India and China.

INDIA.

Letters from Hyderabad (Deccan) state that districts to the value of fifty-two lacs of rupees (£520,000) have been already given up to our Government, according to the terms of the treaty.

The position of the Bombay Government as to the Sudder Court continues to occupy the attention of the Bombay .. It is generally believed that a commission has been ordered by the home Government either to inquire into the charges made some months ago against the Sudder judges, or to investigate the "Great Surat case," which is being agitated more vigorously than ever. The natives throughout Western India continue to petition the Government to restore the two disgraced judges to the Sudder bench. They (the native community) declare that no English gentlemen have for years enjoyed the confidence of all classes of natives in the same manner that Messrs. Le Geyt and Grant have done. Mr. Luard is still endeavouring to compel Government to a public inquiry into the conduct of Messrs. Bell, Simson, and Remington, in the Surat case. Mr. Luard accuses Mr. Simson of the most corrupt practices, and charges Mr. Remington (the Commissioner who acquitted Ardaseer, and now one of the new Sudder judges) with deliberate perjury, and being unfit for the society of gentlemen. Mr. Luard has temporarily discontinued these attacks on account of the serious illness of Mr. Simson, but he declares that on his recovery they will be resumed. Mr. Remington has taken no notice of these attacks, but Mr. Simson's attorney has called on the papers in which the letters have appeared for the writer's name.

Mr. Luard, who makes these charges under an assumed name, in the local papers, replies, that he will come forward and justify the libels in his own name as soon as Mr. Simson is sufficiently recovered to stand a cross-examination in a witness-box. The papers that were formerly most violent against Mr. Luard (though they still strongly condemn the course he has taken to bring about an inquiry) admit that it would certainly appear that a widow had been deprived of her inheritance contrary to explicit law, and is still kept out of it, because Government and the Court of Directors are unwilling that their administration of justice and highest officials should incur the scandal that would be occasioned by a public inquiry into the case.

The native community of Bombay have presented a petition to the Bombay Government, praying that the deposed Sudder judges (Le Geyt and Grant) should be restored to their former position. If the Governor in Council will not comply with the petitioners' request, they pray that the document may be forwarded to England, where they are certain their prayer would be complied with by the Court of Directors. It is a mistake, which many of the English papers fall into, to think that the natives of India mistrust the home Government of India. On the contrary, they always think that by an appeal to England justice is certain to be obtained. One of the richest and most respectable native gentlemen in Bombay remarked lately, "If we had had a wise Government in this presidency during the last five years, there would have been no agitation whatever against the hon. company."

AUSTRALIA.

By the Indian mail correspondence and journals from Sydney to the 30th of May have been received. The Legislative Council of New South Wales has taken the first step towards carrying into effect the

change in the constitution of the colony conceded by the late Government. In the sitting of the 20th, Mr. Wentworth moved the appointment of a committee to draw up what is called "the new constitution." The chief point discussed in this preliminary debate was the future organisation of an Upper Chamber, the establishment of which is the condition attached to the other concessions of the home Government. The committee will, it is pretty certain, adopt Mr. Wentworth's view of the question, and recommend that the new Upper Chamber be composed of nominees of the Crown. It is the readiest mode of meeting the difficulty; but that it will be popular out of doors is more than doubtful. The nominee system has been ascribed to the influence of the nominee members of the Council, as at present constituted; and it is the general impression that the new Upper Chamber will be little more than the nominee section of the Council sitting separately, instead of forming an integral part of it. On the other hand, it is argued the Crown is not limited in its selection to its present nominees; and that if the new appointments are made for life, as in Canada, some of the body might derive from that security a degree of independence that would render them fair arbitrators between the Crown and the elected representatives.

The question excites no general interest, the public mind is wholly absorbed by business, and the task of constitution-making falls in a very unfavourable time. Nothing less solid than gold, and the large traffic it has created, command any attention.

The bill amending the Gold Regulations Act has been introduced and printed; it removes many of the grievances that have been so much complained of; but, if the reports from the gold-fields can be relied on, is still not considered satisfactory by the diggers. The new bill will allow persons to "prospect" or try the ground without licenses in places that have not been proclaimed as gold-fields. The prohibition of the issue of licenses to runaway servants and apprentices is repealed, merely because it is impossible to carry it out with effect; but a conviction of having absconded from hired service cancels a license if it has been obtained. Servants, persons in Government employ, and clergymen are not to pay license fees for residing on the fields, and foreigners are to be dealt with precisely as British subjects. With these amended regulations, if a few dazzling nuggets are turned up during the winter, the Sydney diggers may again be tenanted. Without some greater "finds" than have lately been made, much effect cannot be expected of them.

The committee of the Australian Anti-Convict League has decided on dissolving that body so soon as the Ministerial declaration of the abolition of transportation to any of the present Australian colonies shall have been legally carried into effect by an order in Council or an act of Parliament. It is proposed to celebrate the dissolution of the League by the grandest banquet that has ever been given in the colony.

The accounts from the gold-fields are almost limited to the returns of the quantities of bullion brought down by the escorts, and the preparations made by the diggers for the winter; many will quit the grounds to return in the spring; the more steady and determined will camp out and work on; bark huts and log houses were being built, and in many places the diggings present a more settled appearance. The roads, difficult in summer, were becoming worse, and the carriage of goods was again rising. At Castlemain (Victoria) there had been a disturbance, caused by the over-zeal of the police in repressing illicit grog-selling; they pulled down and demolished a store in the night without warrant or authority, leaving the inmates, lodgers, and others exposed to the weather. So summary a proceeding on suspicion was considered too bad, and the diggers were thrown into an anti-police agitation. Indignation meetings were held, and placards posted on the gum-trees, invoking the spirit of Hampden against official tyranny. By the last report it was supposed the local commissioner would allay the storm by paying for the damage done. Half the business of the police appears to be in hunting out these contraband establishments. Considering the enormous number of public-houses permitted in the towns, a freer dispensation of licenses at the diggings might be made without detriment to morality, and would render the illicit sale of spirits less profitable.

The regularity with which large quantities of gold are brought down to Melbourne proves, however, that the diggers do not allow their labour to be interrupted by such incidents. The produce of the Victoria gold-fields continues rather to increase than diminish. The richest or best-worked diggings are evidently at Mount Alexander. As long as the yield in Victoria continues so great, no change in the gold regulations of New South Wales will bring the gold-seekers back to the northern fields. It is quite possible the Sydney diggings may be no less rich than those of the south; nothing is more capricious than the manner in which gold is distributed. But, to become popular, they must furnish some counter-temptation to announcements like the following, taken from the last *Geelong Advertiser*—

Mr. Esmond, the first discoverer of gold in Victoria, has just brought into Geelong a splendid specimen found in White Horse Gully, Ballarat, of the estimated weight of 60 ounces. It was found at 54 feet depth, in a seam of quartz running horizontally beneath a hard conglomerate of slate and quartz blended. The specimen resembles those masses found at Canadian Gully. The colour, shape, and fragmentary appearance of the quartz are the counterparts in every respect of those found at the Canadian. White Horse Gully is close to Yulde's home station, and on the Ballarat side of the dividing range.

Some of the miners now use gunpowder to loosen a bed of conglomerate from five to ten feet thick, which has to be cut through in the works at the White Hills and Ballarat. The "cradle," the first and simplest contrivance for washing the stuff, is being superseded by machines that wash greater quantities more thoroughly; the "long Tom" is an enlarged cradle, and the "sluice" is a still more effective arrangement for parties sufficient in number to work it. The whole process is gradually becoming one that requires a certain degree of skill, and that of a kind which must be acquired on the spot; even in discovering the most likely places for claims, geological knowledge is often baffled where a sort of local instinct succeeds. It is the recommendation of one of the scientific authorities of the colony that persons who have read up their geology for the article "gold," with a view to the diggings, had better, on arriving there, "lay all their science on the shelf as soon as possible."

The following return gives the quantity of gold delivered from the Victoria fields at Melbourne, by the Government and private escorts, in the first four months of the present year—

	Ounces.
January	186,015
February	172,329
March	169,654
April	161,431

Total 689,429

In the corresponding months of 1852, the produce of the same fields was as follows—

	Ounces.
January	64,834
February	56,103
March	51,865
April	67,656

Total 240,363

The increase is 449,066 ounces above the produce of the same period last year, or 187 per cent. But it should be remembered the fields are now more extensive, and worked by a greater number of persons. There is no indication that the yield is falling off. Another return gives the quantity brought down in the last two months from the several diggings; from which it appears that from April 2 to May 19 there arrived by Government escort 200,032 ounces of gold, and by private escort 48,520 ounces; making a total brought down by escorts of 248,552 ounces. To this must be added 20,121 ounces brought down during the last week, completing the returns to the 25th of May; making the whole amount for April and May 268,673 ounces. The weight of gold shipped to London from Victoria in the present year already amounts to 37 tons 11 cwt. 1 lb. 9 oz.; value, at £3 15s. per oz., £3,382,953 15s. sterling.

The *Times* correspondent at Sydney says:—Rents continue to rise in Sydney, to the dismay of all who have only fixed incomes and no lease. Provisions, though far below Melbourne prices, run high, and the large importations do not appear to bring them down, as the purchases for the Melbourne market were extensive. The great mass of immigration goes to Port Phillip; but the real nature of the work required for successful gold-seeking is becoming more known in the colony, and those who cannot undergo severe toil are compelled to find other employments. Wages had probably reached their highest rate. This cannot be predicted of house-rents, as there is comparatively little building going on. Capital makes a quicker return in other investments, and skilled labour cannot be procured in sufficient quantity to construct rapidly. Some few stores and offices are being pushed on to completion, but few dwelling-houses are in course of erection. To those not actually making money, life is a struggle with expensive discomfort; many persons who were independent of trade are leaving the colony altogether and returning to England; professional men, Government officials, and others are driven from the city, finding it impossible to pay the rents demanded, and are compelled to find residences in the country. Those

who are employed at fixed salaries, or who hold Government situations, are the worst off, as they can neither quit them nor, like professional men, increase their income by higher charges. This unfortunate class is fast sinking into debt, and the Government has been compelled by the hardship of their case to propose a general increase in the scale of all official salaries; the measure is now before the Council, and, when voted, will probably be made retrospective, the increase commencing from the 1st of January last. But in all these respects Sydney offers a faint picture of the state of things at Melbourne; there rents are asked for mere hovels that would not be demanded for mansions in Europe; and the rapid increase of the population is beginning to be regarded with something like fear. So great is the suffering of the hundreds who land there destitute that the residents, though till now very indifferent, have at last made an attempt to relieve it, by preparing some place of temporary shelter for the new comers. There is some difficulty in comprehending how positive destitution can exist where every kind of labour is well paid; but a large proportion of the immigrants are neither labourers, nor mechanics, nor domestic servants; the diggings failing, they soon spend all they have, and fall into a most miserable condition; at last they are compelled to become labourers on the road or anything; but the struggle with pride is often long and painful. One of the Melbourne journals has published a solemn exhortation to this generally useless class, imploring them to descend cheerfully and "like Christians" to the menial occupations for which there is a field; at the same time lecturing employers on the folly of entertaining a prejudice against taking gentlemen and ladies for household servants—an additional difficulty with which the educated destitute have to contend. There is, it seems, something embarrassing to a master in having a graduate of Cambridge to black his boots or groom his horse; and even if a gentleman offered to undertake those duties, he would be rejected for one who could not be accused of mathematics or manners. Yet, if the advice of the writer above cited could be followed, it would be a benefit on both sides; that it should be so earnestly given is one of the indications of the anomalous state of society.

The following extracts from a letter, written by an intelligent working printer who emigrated to Australia, will be read with interest. This letter is dated "Melbourne, Victoria, Feb. 7, 1853." After stating that he is employed at a newspaper office in Melbourne, at an average rate of wages amounting to £6 per week, he says—

There are swarms of compositors out of employment, or mending the roads. We thought our four months' voyage would prepare us to stand anything; but the ship was a paradise compared to this infernal city: one day it is a dust-hole, and the next a mud-hole. In wet weather sometimes I wear boots which cover my thighs, and then cannot keep myself out of the mud. In dry weather the hot wind completely scorches your face, like standing in a furnace, accompanied with dust, so thick, that it resembles the thickest fog I ever saw in London. Men and women alike are compelled to wear veils. As to comfort of any sort, every dictionary in the colony ought to have the word erased. The mosquitoes are awfully tormenting—the faces, hands, and arms of myself and wife are completely covered with the wounds inflicted by these insects; and the flies actually settle on your meat while on the fork on the road to your mouth. Fleas are of an elephantine size, and seem to grow in the soil. Melbourne is not a manufacturing place, and everything is imported here ready-made—slops, carts, drays, brushes, houses—in fact, everything either comes from England, Van Diemen's Land, Sydney, or America. I yesterday met with your late neighbour, Mr. F., and he described Melbourne very laconically, namely, that coming from England to Melbourne was a "sell," and I think it equals going to the Tower of London to see the "lions washed." A man in England with 30s. a week is better off than being here at £5 a week. For instance, I have seen half-a-crown refused for a cabbage, 2s. 6d. for a four pound loaf; lowest price for green peas 8s. per peck, and they all look worm-eaten. Meat—the cheapest thing in the colony—6d. per pound, is over-driven, half-fled, half-grown, flabby stuff. Beer, 2s. per quart; potatoes, 6d. per pound. No veal to be had but that which is killed on the day it is calved, as it does not pay for rearing, milk being 1s. 4d. per quart. English gin 7s. per bottle, usual size. Rent is very high; I have paid £2 per week for a little back room, and only left it because the rent was raised to £3 per week. There are thousands living in canvas tents. There is a town on the south side of the Yarra. Yarra composed entirely of canvas tents; and when the winter comes, and they wish to get into houses, I expect the rent will be doubled.

There is no such thing as having a friend to smoke a cigar with, for every one is afraid to go home after dark. Just imagine me leaving the office at two or three o'clock in the morning, having to travel to Collingwood, two miles from Melbourne, and every five minutes surrounded by a pack of dogs, or stumbling over the cows and bullocks. Just imagine me with my pockets full of brick-bats, a stick in one hand, and a brick in the other, travelling through the bush, expecting—an every day occurrence—to be shot at and robbed. If they shoot me they'll be considerably taken in, for I leave my watch at home, and never carry much money. I said home—I misspelled the word; for it is only used by everybody when speaking of England; and thousands of poor souls are daily wishing they had never left it—more so than I; for at least two thirds of the new-comers left good situations in England to better themselves here—such as linendrapers, Government clerks, and numbers without trades. They try the diggings, but are not fit for those hardships; come back to Melbourne; go as waiters, cooks, labourers; work on the wharf, mend the roads, get into the police, or die, for there is no poorhouse here. A great many, who can get the means, return home after being here only a week or two; others would do the same if they could. For myself, I have only just commenced work; and if things continue as well as they look, the expiration of seven years shall, God willing, see me in England again.

There is a fresh impetus to the diggings, owing to a nugget having been found this week at Ballarat, weighing 120 lbs. There is much talk in England of highly-respectable persons going to the diggings; but there is not one in one hundred with whom you would sit in company, if you could avoid it: they are chiefly Irish, who have been sent out by Government, and when they have realised some gold, they return to Melbourne, spend it, and then return again. Living in a boarding-house, as we did for the first three months, we mixed with all sorts, and some of them made much of us. Imagine me ill in bed, and because one man had known me for a day or two, he proposed that his friends should come up to my bed-room and pay me a visit—some armed with bottles of brandy, wine, gin, &c.; while my poor Sally was dreadfully alarmed to see me surrounded by two Englishmen, a Lascar, a Maltese, a negro, an Irishman, &c. One half did not understand the other half; but the bottles and glasses were the interpreters, which, by frequent drinking and nodding, conveyed the intelligence of our wishing each other an improvement in our sanitary condition. It was no uncommon thing for a light carriage, four-in-hand, to be brought to the door for me and my wife to take an airing, for which these careless acquaintances of mine would pay £10 per hour. You know my wife's independence too well to suppose that we often accepted such kindnesses; but the gold is not so plentiful now—ditto, four-in-hand.

If you know of any person (particularly with a family) coming here, and without £500, make him a present of a piece of rope; and, if he has that amount, let him stop where he is, for, if he can't turn it to account in England, he will require more brains to make it useful here: in truth, he will spend it while looking for means to invest it.

PERSIA.

It is stated that Sir John McNeill, our Envoy at the Court of Persia, has left Teheran in consequence of the intrigues of Russia with Persia, and of both with Dost Mahomed at Cabul; and it is stated that there was such sufficient reason for "so extreme a step as to warrant the belief that a confederation against England had come to his knowledge, which he could not with prudence or policy overlook." His departure, together with the collection of a Persian and Herattee force near Herat, and of large levies in Afghanistan and Bokhara, have given rise to fresh apprehension to Russian intrigue and prospective aggression on our western frontiers.

In the event of the dismemberment of the Chinese empire, the supremacy of Chinese Tartary, if not of Tibet, would naturally devolve upon Russia; and the possession of Lassa and the valley of a great river like the Sampo or Upper Burrampooter would afford a much more easy entrance into British India than could be obtained through the difficult passes of the rocky desert that environs the north-western frontier.

EGYPT.

Advices from Alexandria of the 5th inst. state that the progress of the negotiations relative to the Russo-Turkish dispute were regarded with anxious expectation in Egypt, where the belief prevailed that if a general war broke out that country would immediately be taken possession of by one or other of the European powers. Private letters say:—

"Said Pacha the heir-apparent to the Pachalic, has effected a reconciliation with his nephew the Viceroy, and it is to be hoped that it will prove lasting, both for their own individual sakes and for the benefit of the country. The quarrels that have existed among the members of the family of Mehemet Ali, ever since his death, have only served to weaken their position in the country, and might give a pretext to the Sultan to remove them from their present position, should he feel inclined to do so.

"The river Nile is rising very rapidly; and, to the satisfaction of all, is covering the whole of the valley of Egypt with its fertilising water, and alluvial deposit. Meanwhile the winds are blowing strongly from the north, so as to prevent the water from flowing too rapidly into the sea, and, all the canals being filled, the means of communication throughout the land are perfectly free and easy.

"A supply of men has been provided to enable the railway engineers to go on with their work; but a great check has been given to its onward progress by the removal of the sailors who were originally employed on the line, the period of the completion of which now lies in great uncertainty.

"The new crops of wheat and beans are beginning to arrive, but prices are still kept up enormously high—even 5s. to 6s. per quarter higher than in England—in consequence of the chances of war. Shipping is still in much demand, and 10s. to 10s. 3d. per quarter are offered for vessels to arrive. Exchange on London, 98½ piasres per pound sterling."

TOMB OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AT THE HOTEL DES INVALIDES.

On the 12th of May, 1840, M. de Remusat, at that time Minister of the Interior, announced from the tribune of the Chamber of Deputies that the French Government had just succeeded in a most delicate negotiation, which had been conducted with the greatest secrecy, and the termination of which could not fail to be highly gratifying to the national pride. The English Government, he announced, had consented to restore to France the ashes of the Emperor Napoleon. The Prince de Joinville set out for St. Helena, and at the end of nine months brought back the precious charge. The coffin was temporarily placed in the Church of the Invalides, and all the artists of France were invited to send in designs for the Tomb decreed by the Chambers. The design of M. Visconti was selected, and placed in course of execution.

As this magnificent Tomb was for the first time opened to the public on Sunday last, it may be interesting to examine the difficulty under which the conditions of the law of June 10, 1840, placed the architect in the erection of the monument, and in the ingenuity and grandeur of conception in which M. Visconti triumphed over the enormous difficulties which the problem presented. The Chambers decided that the Tomb should be placed under the dome of the Church of the Invalides. This condition presented the first difficulty. The Church of the Invalides has two entrances: one on the south, and the other on the north. The southern entrance presents a façade, behind which rises the dome. It is reached by the semicircular Place Vauban—where, we may remark, a fine view of the exterior of this majestic edifice may be obtained. The other, and more frequented, entrance opens upon the Grand Court of the Hôtel. The question was, towards which of these two entrances the architect should direct the front of the Tomb. Under the dome, in two side chapels, are the venerable monuments of Vauban and Turenne, whose ashes are placed in tombs ornamented by allegorical figures of great size. These monuments arrest the eye of every visitor, and cannot be examined without exciting emotions in which admiration for the skill of the artist mingles with the respect due to the memory of the illustrious dead. What the architect had to do was to erect between these two monuments a Tomb which should throw them into the shade by its surpassing size and magnificence. Another grave difficulty was that to erect the Tomb of the Emperor on the level of the floor of the church was to mask the altar. It was indispensable that no object should interpose between the officiating priest and the worshippers of the temple, so as to distract their attention and prevent them from uniting together in devotion. The only means by which the difficulties which presented themselves could be overcome was to construct a crypt in the centre of the church, beneath the majestic dome, the *chef d'œuvre* of the celebrated architect Mansard. A crypt, indeed, left the dome in possession of all its nobility, elegance, and unity, which would have suffered by the erection upon the level of the pavement of a monument of so much prominence. The space which it would have occupied, its massive proportions, its magnificence, would have disturbed all the harmony of this beautiful temple.

It became even impossible to place such a monument at a point which would have permitted the spectator to embrace the *ensemble*, and to seize at a glance all the regularity of its proportions; and its unity would have been evidently destroyed by the irresistible attention drawn upon a secondary object—towards a monument, in fact, thrown within a monument. In a mystical or religious point of view, too, the crypt offered numerous advantages, of which M. Visconti skillfully availed himself. It was necessary, however, that at the first step taken within the church the presence of the monument should be felt. The architect succeeded in this by placing a rich balustrade in white marble, like a crown, round the opening of the crypt. At a few paces further on the spectator, walking upon the magnificent and carefully-restored mosaic pavement of the church, may, leaning upon this balustrade, contemplate the monument developed at his feet in all its austere majesty.

The crypt is entered by a door placed behind the grand altar of the dome, in that part of the church where the floor takes a lower level of about six feet. The spectator descends to the door by a staircase of marble, which winds around the altar, and passes under the altar itself, entering by a bronze door of severe and gloomy aspect. Above the door, upon a tablet of black marble, are inscribed the following words:—*Je désire que mes cendres reposent sur les bords de la Seine, au milieu de ce peuple Français que j'ai tant aimé.* (I desire that my ashes may repose upon the banks of the Seine, in the midst of the French nation which I have loved so much.)

The altar under which the spectator thus passes, has been entirely rebuilt by M. Visconti. He first raised it some steps, thus increasing the number to ten. These steps are broad monoliths of Carrara marble, flanked by a balustrade of white and black marble, recently discovered in the department of L'Ariège, and which closely resembles the antique black marble brought by the Romans from Africa, and which has become so rare that the Louvre only possesses two little columns of it.

M. Visconti has substituted for the baldacchino, or canopy of gilded wood, erected with questionable taste over the altar, in 1809, by M. Trepsa, another baldacchino, ornamented by four lofty twisted columns, of the same precious marble. These monoliths are seven yards high, and about a yard in circumference. This substitution is much more worthy of the colossal design of M. Mansard, so much admired by M. Visconti, and much more in conformity with his plans, since it appears that the idea of this columned baldacchino existed in the designs of Mansard, brought to light by Visconti.

Above the altar rises a beautiful figure of Christ, in white marble, placed upon a cross of bronze. This has been newly executed by M. Triqueti. The walls of the altar passed in descending towards the door of the crypt, are cased with magnificent green marble from the quarries of St. Paul, in L'Isère. We are now at the entrance to the crypt (See the two figures in our Illustration). On each side of the door stands a colossal bronze statue of stern and masculine appearance—the one representing civil, and the other military power. They bear upon cushions the orb and the Imperial sceptre. M. Duret, member of the Institute, is the sculptor of these beautiful figures, which add to his well-established renown.

The door passed, the spectator finds himself in a vault, formed by the immense steps of the altar above. A "dim religious light" begins to prevail. The architect by a conception at once religious and poetical wished to prepare the mind for the solemn emotions befitting a sanctuary in which the nothingness of human greatness is so impressively shown.

On the right and left, like two sentinels, guarding the remains of him whom in life they so much loved, stand the tombs of General Bertrand and General Ducroc: Bertrand, who followed Napoleon into Egypt, from 1798, and who took the most active part in all his northern and southern campaigns, who shared



BAS RELIEF—ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRALISATION.

Jena, Friedland, Wagram, and Moskowa. The covered portion of the crypt is lighted by twelve bronze lamps, modeled from the terracotta lamps found at Pompeii, and which will only be lighted on solemn days—such as the birth and death of the Emperor. Upon the walls of this circular gallery are placed ten grand bas-reliefs in white marble, designed by M. Simart, and executed by MM. Chambard, Petit, Ottin, Lanno, &c. They represent the following subjects allegorically treated—the pacification of civil disorders, the institution of the Legion of Honour, the concordat with Rome, the administration, the Council of State, the Code, the University, the Cours des Comptes, the encouragements given to Commerce and Industry, and the public works. The continuation of these bas-reliefs is twice interrupted by the door of the vestibule and by that of a subterraneous chamber—a kind of sanctuary in black marble, of gloomy and severe aspect, in which are placed different relics of interest—to wit, the sword which the Emperor wore at Austerlitz, the decorations which glittered upon his breast on great occasions, the crown of gold voted by the city of Cherbourg, and sixty flags won by French valour. These flags formerly ornamented the Senate. They were concealed by M. Sémonville upon the entrance of the Allies. The relics are laid upon a cushion



BAS RELIEF.—THE CONCORDAT.

his exile at Elba, and his dangers at Waterloo, and who went even to St. Helena to alleviate the misfortunes of his master by a self-devotion which could hardly be equalled in the heroic ages; and Duroc, whom the Emperor loved like a brother—who was the companion of all his battles, from 1797 to 1813, until he fell in Silesia, with the glory of a soldier and the devotion of a friend.

This vestibule passed, the spectator finds himself in the crypt (*vide Illustration*), which is of a circular form. Its depth below the pavement is about six yards, and it has altogether a diameter of about twenty-three yards. The centre of the crypt, which is left open, and is bounded by the balustrade above described, occupies above fifteen yards. The remainder of the crypt included in the above diameter is under the floor, and forms a gallery. The floor is supported by twelve square columns or pilasters, of white Carrara marble, each of which is faced by a colossal figure, holding in its hand the emblems of the Emperor's principal victories. These twelve colossal Caryatides excite the admiration of every spectator—the figure in each case being sculptured out of the single block of marble which forms the column. They are the last great works of Pradier, who died before the inauguration of the Tomb. The figures all have their eyes turned towards the sarcophagus, which is now being raised in the centre of the crypt. We present our readers with sketches of three of these figures.

The sarcophagus is composed of an ancient red granite, from Finland, harder and of a finer grain than that of Africa—a material admirably calculated to defy the destructive ravages of time, and which was discovered by M. Montferrand, architect of the Czar, who has made of the same granite several columns in the church of St. Isaac, at St. Petersburg. This precious and beautiful material has been hitherto unknown to us, and the idea of thus appropriating it belongs to M. Visconti. The sarcophagus is four yards long by two in breadth, and is more than four yards high. It is formed of four blocks, and placed upon a platform of green granite, from the Vosges. The outer coffin, which has received the cedar and leaden coffins brought from St. Helena, is composed of a substance called *algolia*, from Corsica—the same material employed in the base of the Column in the Place Vendôme.

To saw and polish the sarcophagus of red granite, the powerful assistance of a steam-engine was necessary. A rich mosaic pavement surrounds the sarcophagus, representing a laurel crown, in the style of those of ancient Rome. Rays emanate from this crown, which surrounds the Monument. In this beautiful mosaic pavement may be read the names of the Emperor's principal victories—Rivoli, the Pyramids, Marengo, Austerlitz,



COLOSSAL FIGURE, BY PRADIER.

placed upon a bronze coffer; the flags ornament the walls, their diverse hues, belonging to almost every European nation, crimsoned by the blood of their defenders and begrimed by the smoke and dust of battle, standing out boldly from the black marble. At the further end will be erected a grand statue of Napoleon in Imperial costume, and sculptured in the quarry by M. Simart. A lamp suspended from the sepulchral vault, and always lighted, will present a dim obscurity in this chamber, which will only be seen through the grating of the door. The aspect of this Monument has, it may well be imagined, a grandeur, a severe magnificence, and a religious character which explains the preference given to the plans of Visconti, the successful competitor.

The Court Vauban, which fronts the principal entrance of the church, is, so to speak, its vestibule: it should, therefore, announce the Monument which the spectator is about to see. M. Visconti conceived the idea of decorating it with the statues of twelve Marshals created by the Emperor when he revived the monarchical dignity. Seats placed below the pedestals of these statues will form the *enceinte* of this Court. In the centre, upon a rich pedestal, will be erected a statue of Napoleon in military costume, as he appeared upon the field of battle.

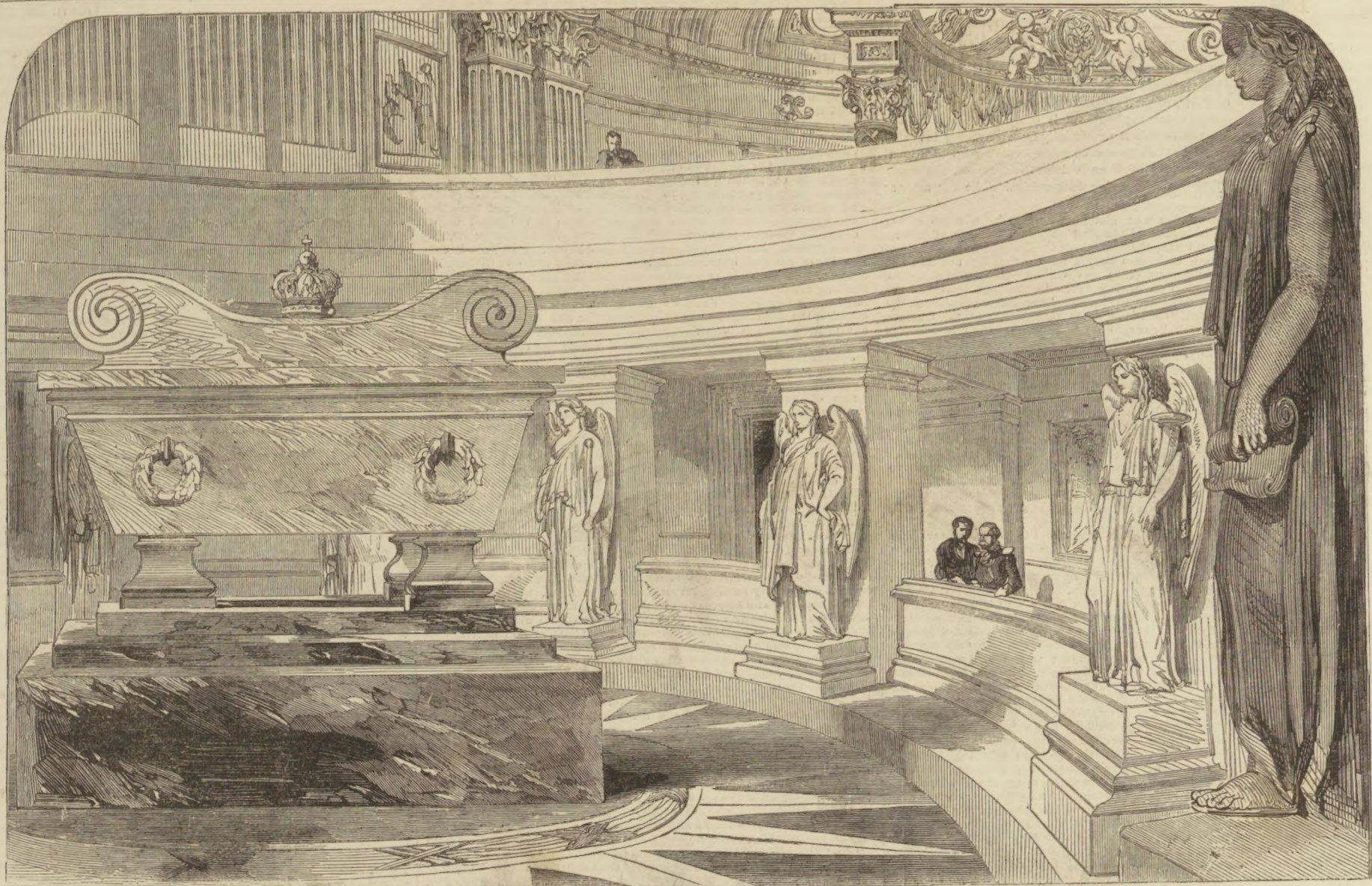
When Louis Philippe first conceived the idea which his Ministers adopted, and which the country received with enthusiasm, to take advantage of the relations then existing between France and England, and to claim the body of the Emperor, he was animated by one of those noble and patriotic instincts which ought oftener to actuate the policy of Sovereigns. The King, who had personally discussed the matter of the restitution of the Emperor's remains in a familiar conversation with Queen Victoria, during her visit to the Château d'Eu, before opening up negotiations between the two Governments, desired that a considerable sum should be appropriated for the construction of this Tomb, and made a demand upon the Chambers of 4,000,000 francs. Later, a new credit of 3,000,000 francs was necessary. When finished, the Imperial Tomb will become one of the greatest attractions in the city of Paris.

For the greater part of the foregoing particulars we are indebted to a communication by M. Jules Lecomte, in the columns of *L'Indépendance Belge*. We have been honoured by receiving the following account of the bas-reliefs from M. Simart, the eminent sculptor, to whom the execution of these bas-reliefs has been entrusted by the French Government.

In the first bas-relief, the Imperial Genius, with the lion's rod—the symbol of executive power—holds in one hand the law of the 28th *Pluviose*, constituting an administrative centralization: with the other he seizes the helm of affairs, which is placed upon the



COLOSSAL FIGURE, BY PRADIER.



TOMB OF NAPOLEON.—THE SARCOPHAGUS, IN THE CRYPT.

map of France divided into departments, in order to indicate the existence of this centralisation. The hydra which struggles under the powerful arm of the Genius, is administrative anarchy, of which France was henceforth delivered. Justice and Prudence, which are at the side of the Imperial Genius, prepare and enlighten his decisions; and the two figures of Public Abundance and Prosperity indicate the great results which must be produced by the unity of power in the Administration.

At the base of the throne the following inscription appears:—"I have shown that even in the midst of war I did not neglect that which concerned the institutions and the good order of France."

The subject of the second bas-relief is the "Concordat." The Genius of Napoleon reconciles Catholic Rome with France. The cross is again elevated, and religion and morals can anew exert their beneficent action. The faithful can now render public homage to the object of their re-

ligious worship. The old man, raising his eyes to heaven, offers his grateful ascriptions at the sight of this sacred emblem of the religion of his fathers. The young girl throws herself upon her knees, and finds support in religious hopes; while the young man raises with sacred ardour the Christian emblem of hope and regeneration. At the foot of the bas-relief is an inscription—"The Gallican Church revived by Intelligence and Concord."



TOMB OF NAPOLEON.—ENTRANCE TO THE CRYPT.

THE FETE OF THE EMPEROR.

(See Illustration on page 138.)

Although every year makes a fresh demand on the talents of the decorative artists of Paris, so fruitful is their imagination, and so pure their taste, that always something beautiful is offered to the public admiration, and in most cases differing essentially from anything invented for preceding solemnities. The present occasion furnishes an additional proof of the vast superiority of French decorative talent, the ornamentation for the Fête Napoléon being distinguished alike for novelty and for good taste.

The Fête commenced at six on Monday morning by a salvo of 101 guns fired from the Invalides. Even at that hour a number of promenaders were already enjoying the cool air in the Champs Elysées, where thousands of workmen had been busy from the first light of dawn in putting up lamps and completing the various preparations. The weather was propitious, rain having fallen in the night and laid the dust. The ground selected for the principal decorations comprised the garden of the Tuileries, the Place de la Concorde, and the Champs Elysées, up to the Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile. On the whole of this vast space, lofty frameworks of timber were erected to imitate the arches and colonnade of a Moorish building. On each terrace of the Tuileries gardens, near the grand entrance from the Place, stood a long range of lofty arcades of open wood-work, supported on wide pilasters, traced out with slight rods of wood, and ornamented with a variety of curious mouldings, unlike any architectural decoration of the present day, and forming a kind of architectural fret-work, producing a most happy effect. An immense triumphal arch, of the same description of work, stood in front of the main entrance into the garden; and from its centre was suspended a huge Imperial crown, with wreaths of laurel connecting it to tracery above. Every part of these erections was covered over with coloured lamps. All round the Place de la Concorde were similar constructions, all gaily painted in a uniform manner, so as to produce a kind of quaint harmony of colouring.

Up the Champs Elysées to the Rond-Point was to be seen on each side a long extending range of similar arcades, supported on pilasters of the description already mentioned. There were not less than 354 of these arcades—the whole line cut into parts by twenty-six lofty porticoes, placed at equal distances. The arabesques, formed by the slight wooden rods, were hung round in every direction with coloured lamps; and from the centre of each arcade was suspended a lustre for 100 lights. Over the fountain at the Rond-Point was raised an immense celestial sphere, bearing an enormous eagle with outspread wings; the whole ornamented with coloured lamps. From the Rond-Point to the Triumphal Arch were 360 lofty poles, placed at equal distances, and connected below by a triple garland of coloured lamps, and above by a broad cornice, on which also lamps were placed. This same ornamentation was adopted in the garden of the Tuileries, with this difference, that the lamps were there of white glass, looking in the distance like strings of huge pearls. Sixty immense chandeliers were suspended from gaily-coloured cords running across the main avenue of the Champs Elysées; and the Triumphal Arch at the end bore a vast star of the Legion of Honour, to be lit up at night with gas. The side passages up the Champs Elysées were also crossed with lines of coloured lanterns, suspending immense lustres of cut glass. Half-way up on the left, near the Palais de l'Industrie, was erected a circular building, in which, in the afternoon, a military band played symphonies and marches; and at each side, near the Rond-Point, were placed two other bands. The three buildings were formed of arcades of gilt rods to match the constructions around, and from the centre of each arcade hung a chandelier of coloured lamps. A profusion of natural flowers were placed outside, and the general effect of these constructions was exceedingly happy.

One peculiarity of the ornamentation or this Fête was the comparative absence of tricoloured flags. Since 1848 they have always been the groundwork of the decorations of every public ceremony; but on the present occasion, except some small banneroles which floated from the poles erected in the Tuileries gardens to receive the ends of the festoons of lamps, and some faisceaux ornamenting a handsome orchestra situated beneath the grand balcony of the Pavillon de l'Horloge, scarcely one was to be found. The letter "N." was to be seen in various places on the triumphal arch in the Place de la Concorde, as well as on shields suspended from the poles connecting the festoons of lamps; and that letter, with the huge eagle at the Rond-Point, alone intimated in whose honour the Fête was celebrated.

But the Fête was not merely in honour of the Emperor; it was also, to a certain extent, a religious one, since the Fête Napoléon and that of the Assumption fall on the same day. In the various churches of Paris the image of the Virgin was dressed out with great splendour, and a grand service was celebrated in her honour.

About one o'clock the crowd became very dense in the garden of the Tuileries and in the Champs Elysées; yet, at that hour, the boat-races, near the Pont d'Iéna, attracted thousands of persons. Further on, the Champ de Mars was thronged with a vast multitude, waiting to witness the performances of the artists of the Hippodrome, who were to give a representation of "The Field of the Cloth of Gold," and a grand equestrian spectacle. M. Godard was also to ascend in his balloon; and the performers of the Imperial Cirque were to represent the capture of Laghouat. In addition, about the same hour, vast crowds were collected at the eastern end of Paris to witness pantomimic performances on the Place Valhubert, and at the Barrière du Trône; whilst thousands of others had filled the Théâtre Français, the Opéra Comique, Palais Royal, Gymnase, Porte St. Martin, Variétés, Vaudeville, and other principal theatres, to enjoy the gratuitous performances. At Bercy there were boat-races, which could boast of fully as many spectators as were collected at those near the Pont d'Iéna.

A little after two o'clock, the river between the Pont des Invalides and the Pont d'Iéna presented a very animated scene; a vast number of the gayest of the Parisian canots having assembled for sailing and rowing matches, which were well contested.

The aquatic sports were still at their height, when part of the spectators moved toward the Pont d'Iéna, to gain the Champ de Mars. A large enclosed circle for horse-riding had been formed at one side, whilst at the other was erected a theatre for a miscellaneous performance, of which the principal part was the taking of Laghouat by the French troops.

The *divertissement* in the Champ de Mars was of great attraction, and every part of the ground from which a view could be obtained, was crowded to excess.

The cavalcade of "The Field of the Cloth of Gold" was a brilliant performance, and the cortège, composed of eighty-seven personages, costumed in the style of Francis I., kings, queens, knights, heralds, squires, pages, valets, ensign-bearers, &c., presented a picturesque *coup d'œil*. But this gaudy sight was surpassed by the "passage of arms," in which eight English knights and eight French ones, armed *cap-à-pie*, and mounted on steeds barbed and beheaded in mail, held the ground for an hour against each other. (See Illustration on page 138.)

The spectacle was a representation of the assault and capture of Laghouat; and the architect displayed great skill in constructing a very good resemblance of that place, the capture of which reflected high credit on the French army in Algeria. The mimic fort was attacked in due form by a body of about 600 men, Chasseurs de Vincennes, Zouaves, Spahis, &c. The Arabs made a most determined resistance, and blazed away from their battlements with great energy; but all their valour was of no avail against the energy and superior discipline of their assailants; and the tricoloured flag of the victors at length floated triumphantly from the walls. In addition to this representation, M. Buislay rolled his ball, while standing on it, up a spiral inclined plane; Madame Saqui, now seventy-six, danced like a young girl of eighteen; and M. Godard made a balloon ascension.

At four o'clock the Emperor and the Empress left the Tuileries in an open carriage, and visited the principal points of the public rejoicing. They proceeded to the Champ de Mars by the Quays and the Pont d'Iéna, and were received everywhere on their passage with loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" Their Majesties afterwards drove round by the Barrière de l'Etoile, and returned to the Palace by the Champs-Elysées and the Garden of the Tuileries.

By the time all these performances had terminated, evening had come on; but the crowds on the main points of attraction—the Place de la Concorde and the Champs Elysées—remained without any perceptible diminution. At about half-past six, a salvo of 101 guns from the Invalides intimated that the Day Fête might be considered at an end, and that the preparations for the illuminations were about to commence. Many persons availed themselves of this pause to proceed home to dinner, and when they were able to return to the Fête, the change which had taken place was one of the most striking description—the whole of the garden of the Tuileries, the Place de la Concorde, and the Champs Elysées, being lit up in the most magnificent manner. It is impossible to convey even a faint idea of the effect produced by the illumination of the arcades already described. Nothing like it has ever been seen in Paris before. The

variously-coloured lamps sparkled like emeralds, topazes, rubies, &c. The grand façade on the terraces of the garden of the Tuileries presented a dazzling blaze. The Place de la Concorde was also of the greatest beauty, whilst the grand avenue of the Champs Elysées seemed like an interminable ball-room lit up with magnificent lustres. The side alleys were also brilliantly lit up; and, in addition to the coloured lamps, had a vast number of lanterns of various shapes. The sphere at the Rond-Point was covered with blue lights to represent the firmament, and the eagle above was one blaze of white light. It may give some idea of the extraordinary flood of light which met the eye, when it is explained that on the Triumphal Arch there were upwards of 8000 lights; thence to the Rond-Point, 82,000; on the globe and eagle, 5000; on the arcades in the Champs Elysées and the Place de la Concorde, 194,700; on the porticoes, 30,000; on the grand lustres, 10,000; on the triumphal arch near the garden of the Tuileries, 80,000; in the garden, 100,000; in all, not far from 500,000. This, too, is irrespective of the vast number of lights, lamps, and lanterns in the side-alleys and on the arcades which surrounded the Rond-Point, as well as the long range of colonnade from the Rond-Point to the Triumphal Arch of the Barrière de l'Etoile. Perhaps it would not be too much to calculate the whole number of lights put up for this grand illumination at very little short of three-fourths of a million. So admirable were the arrangements that the whole was lit up in a little more than an hour.

Just as the spectators had had time to admire this beautiful scene, the hour for the fireworks had arrived. The living stream then directed its course towards that part of the Champs Elysées which commanded a view of the Invalides. At length the signal blue light was seen, and was responded to by a flight of rockets, which mounted in the air and burst into a shower of brilliant stars of every hue; and these were again followed by flights of Roman candles and variously-coloured fires of all kinds. Next followed the pieces. The first represented the united ciphers of the Emperor and Empress, surrounded by a brilliant halo of stars of all colours. The second was an allegorical mosaic of novel effect, and divided into two tableaux—the first representing a triumphal portico, in the centre of which and on the upper part were the letters "N." and "N.E." united; and the second, a complete cascade of fire. The last, and the master-piece of the night, was of unusual size, the façade being upwards of 300 feet in length, and about 100 feet in height. It was in the shape of a half circle, and was intended to represent the Temple of Immortality, having on each side a lofty portico, surmounted by trophies, with the Imperial initials crowned and surrounded by garlands. Fountains of fire spouted forth from the interior of the porticoes; the columns which formed the hemicycle of the Temple were surmounted by trophies and eagles, and in the centre was represented the apotheosis of Napoleon the Great in the Imperial costume, holding in his right hand a sceptre, and with his left resting on the scabbard of his sword; his feet reposed on a globe covered by the wings of an eagle holding in its claws a scroll, on which was inscribed "15 Août." The figure of Napoleon was about sixty feet in height, and the spread of the wings of the eagle about fifty feet. This was certainly a *chef d'œuvre* of pyrotechnic skill, and, as well as the rest of the display, reflects the highest credit on M. Ruggieri, the artificer and director. Between each of the above pieces, hundreds of rockets and Roman candles were let off, filling the air with countless myriads of stars of the most brilliant and varied colours.

Immediately after the grand piece had terminated its ephemeral existence, a fire-balloon was let off, bearing an eagle surmounted by a crown, and holding in its claws a gigantic letter "N." The balloon ascended majestically, throwing out from time to time showers of coloured balls of fire. Next followed the grand bouquet. No sooner had it disappeared than the whole dome of the Invalides burst out into a blaze of fire of a deep red colour, from Bengal lights placed round it. The effect produced was astounding, and drew forth the most enthusiastic shouts from the countless multitudes assembled.

Fireworks were also let off at the Barrière du Trône, and at Bercy. At the former the grand piece represented Napoleon I. at the bivouac on the eve of the Battle of Austerlitz; and at the latter a naval combat, in which the *Napoléon* line-of-battle ship is represented engaging two other ships, which, after the fight, explode, and throw up rockets, Roman candles, and other fires.

The public offices generally were illuminated. The dome of the Pantheon, the cornice of the Legislative Chamber, and the Arc de Triomphe, were lighted with gas. The Hôtel de Ville, which was handsomely dressed out with flags and hangings, was at night brilliantly lit up. The column in the Place Vendôme was illuminated at the top and bottom with lamps, but the effect was not very striking. In the afternoon a number of old soldiers paid a visit to this spot, and deposited crowns of *immortelles* and flowers on the steps. The railings were dressed with bouquets and wreaths of laurel, and the general effect was pleasing. Along the Boulevards and the principal leading streets the illuminations were pretty general, but they looked insignificant after the fairy-like scene in the Champs Elysées. Taking this Fête, in its ensemble, it may be affirmed that it was one of the most beautiful ever seen in Paris; and it is most satisfactory to be able to state that everything passed off without an accident.

It is only justice to add that the programme of this Fête was dictated to M. Visconti by the Emperor himself; and that the execution of the various parts was not inferior to the invention which had originated them.

The whole cost of the Fête was 700,000 francs, of which 80,000 francs were distributed in alms. The expense is to be equally divided between the city of Paris and the State.

ALLEGED CHRISTIANITY OF THE CHINESE INSURGENTS.

We make the following highly-interesting extract from a communication written by an officer on board Her Majesty's ship *Hermes*, the vessel which carried Sir G. Bonham on his visit to the Chinese insurgents at Nankin:—

The insurgents let us know immediately that they professed Christianity—Protestant Christianity—and I believe sincerely, and many of them intelligently so; nor can there be a doubt of their Protestantism, for their expression is characteristic; they always said—as also the Imperialists in speaking of them—that they were worshippers of Jesu, in contradistinction to that of worshippers of Tien-chu.

They circulate tracts, not copied from missionary tracts, but drawn from the Scriptures by themselves, and written in a far superior style of Chinese than that current or, perhaps, possible to foreigners.

They are iconoclasts, and destroy every vestige of idol worship. They adopt the Ten Commandments, translated by themselves, to which they have appended annotations; thus, they state under the Seventh Commandment, that smoking opium is always associated with the sin mentioned there, and must be discontinued.

They behead for smoking opium, and bamboo for smoking tobacco. They said they had the whole of our Scriptures, but we only saw Genesis. I gave them two New Testaments in Chinese and a Naval and Military Bible; this was, of course, in English. On the occasion of my giving the New Testament the first time, there was no one present who could interpret; but the chief opened it, and, after reading two or three passages, showed by his manner that he understood what it was and valued it; and, on the interpreter returning to my cabin, I told him he was to present it to his Prince. He rose and made several bows, and otherwise expressed his thanks for the present.

They are very severe for any infraction of morals, and separate the sexes, to prevent improprieties of any kind. They hold an open court, confronting litigants; not so in the old Chinese courts, where they nearly always have recourse to torture. They style the army the "Holy Army," and the name of Nankin they have changed into that of the "Holy City." They style each other "brethren," and they invariably called us "foreign brethren."

I rode with an interpreter about twelve miles, and must have passed 20,000 people carrying rice, furniture, &c.; and the interpreter assured me that he only heard one expression that could offend the nicest ear; whereas one can hardly move as many paces elsewhere without hearing many—indeed, I am told the very children use the grossest expressions in their ordinary play. It was obvious to the commonest observer that they were practically a different race. They had Gutzlaff's edition of Genesis, and the person they spoke most of was a Dr. Lohoson. This, we supposed, was either Dr. Hobson, of Canton, or Dr. Lobside, also a medical missionary. The first belongs to the London mission, the other to the Rhenish mission. Perhaps the latter is the more probable, as he was attached to the same society as Gutzlaff, and is said to have itinerated in Quangsai, where the movement took its rise.

On inquiring of an Imperialist belonging to the gunboats above Nankin the cause of the outbreak, he said that a number of them were in the habit of meeting in Quangsai for the worship of Jesu, and that the mandarins prohibited them, stating that they allowed no societies for the propagation of depraved doctrine; and, as they persisted in meeting, they had some of them beheaded. The remainder took up arms in their own defence, commencing with 200. They now state they have a million adherents. I have no doubt they have several hundred thousand at Nankin, Chin-kiang-foo, Yang-Chow, and Kwa-Chow.

The officer in question is evidently disposed to put the most favour-

able construction on the faith of the insurgents, and it is impossible to doubt, after perusing his letter, that the rigorous despotism and the idolatrous superstition which for centuries have cramped and insulated an empire computed to contain a third of the human race have come to an end. There is no change which in magnitude and suddenness can at all compare with this; for it appears that 340,000,000 human beings are yielding, if they have not already yielded, with a rapidity even greater than that we read of in the stories of ancient conquest or mediæval conversion. The army which has almost accomplished the destruction of the Manchou rulers of China is described as possessing all the coolness and confidence of men certain of the justice and success of their cause. Occupying Nankin, and apparently beleaguered by an Imperial host rich in money, mandarins, ships, and pompous ordinances, they nevertheless go on quietly and uninterruptedly collecting immense supplies of rice from the surrounding country, appropriating the Imperial tribute, repairing the fortifications, mounting guns, and preparing for a march to Peking as soon as it shall suit their convenience. They entertain no doubt of their strength, of their Divine mission, of the weakness of the opposing dynasty and armies, of the sympathy of the native Chinese, and of the utter rottenness of the whole existing system. Its condemnation they place in its degrading superstition and its vices, and have by this time the palpable fact to rely upon, that, except in the case of one strongly fortified city, they have never met with any resistance worth speaking of. With such an enemy so near the seat of Tartar rule, and the geographical key of the empire, we may, before very long, expect to hear that the whole empire of China has renounced its idols and embraced Christianity, whatever that may mean in the present instance.

From all accounts, or rather from every possible surmise, it was but a very small spark which has made this vast conflagration. Whether the Prince of Universal Peace, as he is called, first conceived his grand scheme as a pupil of the Rev. Mr. Roberts, an American missionary at Canton; whether he derived his faith from some tradition of the Scriptures long cherished in the remote province of Quangsai; or whether the insurrection took its rise from the atrocities of the mandarins, or the disappointment of a candidate for literary honours, is not known. But some additional light has been thrown upon the creed of the insurgents by some Parliamentary papers recently laid upon the table of the House of Commons by the Foreign-office. The following communication from the Rev. Dr. Medhurst, contains the most valuable and authentic exposition yet published of the character of the Christianity professed by the Chinese rebels. Dr. Medhurst is one of the highest authorities on the subject, and we need, therefore, make no apology for the length of our quotation:—

"The Book of Religious Precepts" is decidedly the best production issued by the insurgents. The reasoning is correct, the prayers are good, the ceremonies enjoined (with the exception of the offerings) are unobjectionable; the Ten Commandments agree in spirit with those delivered by Moses, and the hymns are passable. The statements of the doctrines of human depravity, redemption by the blood of Jesus, and renewal of the heart by the influence of the Holy Spirit, are sufficient to direct any honest inquirer in the way to heaven. If this were the only pamphlet issued by the insurgents, or if they were all like this, we should sincerely rejoice in the movement, and wish it success.

The *Ode for Youth* gives some admirable lessons regarding the honour due to God, who is the Creator and Father of all. It sets forth in very clear terms the coming of Jesus into the world for the salvation of men by the shedding of His blood on the cross; and then goes on to detail the duties that are required of us as parents and children, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, relatives and friends; concluding with instructions as to the management of the heart and external senses. Altogether it is an excellent book, and there is not a word in it which a Christian missionary might not adopt, and circulate as a tract for the benefit of the Chinese.

The *Trinitarian Classic* begins well. It details the creation of the world, and the history of the Israelites, their deliverance from Egypt, the passage of the Red Sea, and the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. It then speaks of the mission of God's Son, Jesus, into the world, His sufferings, death, resurrection, and ascension, with His command to preach the Gospel in all the world, through believing which men may go to heaven. The writer then says that the Chinese, in early ages, worshipped one God, but were deluded afterwards by superstition; on which account God is said to have sent down the present leader of the insurrection (who is also called His son) into the world to study the Chinese classics; after which He took him up to heaven, and gave him instruction on Celestial matters; He also gave him a seal and a sword, with a commission to destroy his enemies. After having slain many, he was again taken up to heaven, where he says that he saw the mother and the wife of Jesus, whom he calls his Elder Brother. Having received new instructions and encouragements, he came down the third time to consolidate his Government.

All these assumptions of journeys to heaven and heavenly interference bring the pretender into discredit, and lead to the suspicion that the Chief of the insurrection has arrogated to himself a direct connection with the Deity, in order to overawe his followers, and make them subservient to his will.

The *Book of Celestial Decrees* purports to be a collection of communications from God, our Heavenly Father, and Jesus, our elder brother, who it is said have several times, since the year 1848, come down into the world to declare the Divine will to man. In 1851 our Heavenly Father is said to have told the multitude that he had appointed the Chief of the insurrection to be their Celestial King, commanding them to be obedient to his commands, and aid him in attaining the Empire. The same year Jesus is said to have told them to fight in order to subdue the country, when they would all attain to high offices; but to have declared that if they disobey the commands of their superiors, or retreated in battle, he would put them to death. He is also said to have forbidden their secreting any of the booty, and to have ordered them to give up everything to the general treasury. On a subsequent occasion the Father is said to have reproved them for disobedience to orders, and for want of courage, telling them to consider whose rice they were eating, and in whose work they were engaged, as an inducement to them to go forth to battle and kill their enemies; adding, that if a man wishes to become a hero he must not live at his ease, for the more men endure, the greater will be their honour; and much more to the same effect, all very unlike what might be expected to come from our Heavenly Father, and very different from anything ever uttered by Jesus.

The pamphlet closes with a number of proclamations from the Chief himself, urging the people to obey Heaven's commands, to keep the males and females at a proper distance, not to encroach on others' rights, to maintain harmony, to display courage, and when engaged in battle never to retreat. He then gives various details respecting the marshalling of the forces, urging the people to fight valourously, and promising rewards according to their merit, including the highest dignities in the present world, and glory in the next. The Chief appends a summary of doctrine, in which he details the Divine attributes, and disclaims for himself, or others, those titles which he thinks are due to God alone. He particularly insists on obedience to the Seventh Commandment, all offences against which are to be visited by death, without mercy. The last proclamation regards his harem, and forbids any one to mention the names or ranks of any of its inmates, or even to look at them. Whoever dares to disobey shall be beheaded; and whoever reports anything that is said outside into the harem, both the carrier and the person who said it are to be beheaded.

This latter document indicates that the Chief is bent on attaining empire, and while claiming every indulgence for himself, is resolved to punish severely all those who interfere with his pleasures.

The *Revelations of the Heavenly Father during His Descent on Earth* details the examination and detection of a traitor on whom they were about to confer an appointment, when the Father is said to have come down from Heaven in person, on purpose to arraign and cross-question the delinquent; and, having brought his treason to light, to have returned to Heaven. Considering this mighty display of the Father's power, the leader called upon his followers to kneel down with him, and acknowledge the Celestial favour; after which, he directed his Ministers to record the declared will of God, on the occasion of His descent upon earth. The result is the pamphlet before us. There is no word of their having seen any form; but the idea of the Father's presence seems to have been impressed upon the minds of the bystanders; when the Father is said to have addressed the leader of the insurrection, saying, "I am going to take this matter in hand to-day; any other person would find it a hard task." He is then said to have commanded the traitor to be brought forward, and to have interrogated him in a variety of ways; in consequence of which the man confessed his guilt, and was put to death. In the course of the examination, the traitor is asked, if he knew who was addressing him? to which he replied, "The Great God—the Heavenly Father." Also, if he knew who was the sun? to which he answered, "The sun is my sovereign—the Celestial ruler—the true lord of all the nations of the earth." "Over what breadth?" it was then asked, "does this sun shine?" to which the answer was given, "He illumines the entire world." These words must be understood, however, with some limitations, as the Chinese are in the habit of considering the territory subject to their own Emperor as the whole world.

After the examination was concluded, and the Father had returned to Heaven, the whole army rejoiced together at the goodness of God, and proceeded to kill pigs and oxen, and offer them up in thanksgiving to the Father of all, for his power and mercy in confounding the Jewish schemes of their enemies, and for His gracious care of His own children. It is evident from this that the insurgents are neither Jews nor Mohammedans, or they would not offer unclean animals to God.

The anthropomorphism displayed in the above pamphlet is very striking. The Deity is brought down from a state of distant superiority, and is represented as familiar with mortals, in a degree which to us appears somewhat revolting. His cross-questioning the culprit, in order to find out the truth, and his scolding several of the officers for their neglect, to whom he ordered 100 blows each to be given, are rather undignified representations of the conduct of the Supreme; leaving the impression on

our minds that not only is the whole scene got up for the purpose of over-awing the multitude, but that the individual who conceived it is himself possessed of a vulgar mind. The language in which the pamphlet is drawn up is also excessively colloquial, and in some instances provincial. Having thus given a general view of the above five pamphlets, we leave the reader to form his own opinion. To ourselves it appears exceedingly difficult to arrive at a definite conclusion. There are some things good, very good, in the productions before us, leading us to infer that the authors were divinely taught, and to cherish the hope that not a few will, through the medium of these truths, find the road to heaven. There are, however, some things of which we most highly disapprove—not the least of which are the pretensions to new and immediate communications from the Deity—some of which afford representations of the Divine Being far different from what we have been accustomed to in the Christian Scriptures, and made to serve the ends of personal aggrandisement and ambition.

The only way to account for the difference, is the supposition that two minds, or different sets of men, have been at work, the one animated by a sincere and humble desire to serve God and to seek His favour through the merits of the only Saviour, and the other desirous of imposing on the credulity of the unthinking many, with the view of elevating themselves to supreme power. Which preponderates, or which is likely ultimately to prevail, it is impossible, without long and intimate personal intercourse with the people themselves, to say. One thing is clear, that a considerable knowledge of Christianity exists among the insurgents; and, could wise instructors effect a residence among them, the good might be fostered and the evil repressed. Should the insurrection succeed, we may at least expect a perfect toleration for Christian missionaries; and it is not unlikely that the party, when predominant, will cherish a favourable disposition towards foreigners, as holding in general the same doctrines with themselves. They would doubtless admit of commercial intercourse; but we may gather, both from their books and their conduct, that opium would be strictly prohibited—not as now, in name only, but in reality.

The advantages to be anticipated from the success of the insurgents are, the opening of the country to religious and commercial enterprise, and the introduction of scientific improvements, which will benefit both the giver and the receiver. It would be sad to see Christian nations engaged in putting down the movement, as the insurgents possess an energy, and a tendency to improvement and general reform (as witness their calendar) which the Imperialists never have exhibited, and never can be expected to display. Questionable though it be, the form of Christianity which the insurgents profess is far better than the stupid idolatry hitherto practised by the Chinese; and it is possible that the European nations, if engaged on the opposite side, would be going to war with some people in some respects better than themselves. Should the Imperialists, unaided by foreigners, prevail over the insurgents (of which there seems little probability), they will become much more exclusive and insolent than before. They will remember our neutrality, our intercourse with the insurgents, and, above all, the apparent similarity between our religion and theirs, with the fact that the insurgents have derived their religion from foreigners. Chinese diplomatists, at some future day, may wield these arguments to our prejudice, and their statesmen be led to interdict, more strictly than ever, the introduction of those doctrines which, in their estimation, have caused their Government so much trouble. Be this as it may, matters have proceeded too far already for Europeans to be able to clear themselves, in the eyes of the Chinese, of all connexion, or at least sympathy with the insurgents; and the only policy that appears at present advisable, is to keep ourselves from being involved any further in the quarrel, and to avoid all Government connection with either party. Foreigners should be prepared, however, with a sufficient force to resist any attack which the insurgents may be induced to make on them to their own destruction.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

We have been favoured with a copy of an English Book of Common (Morning) Prayer, printed in Chinese characters, and circulated among the Chinese by Mr. William Bramston. This little work has been translated into Chinese by the Rev. Dr. Morrison. We engrave, for the satisfaction of our readers' curiosity, the title-page of the work before us. Considering the extent of our commercial relations with China, no less than the religious sympathy which appears to exist between the new sect and the Christian missionaries in that country, no time ought to be lost in increasing the facilities for acquiring a knowledge of the Chinese language in this country. The Government, the heads of universities and collegiate bodies, and the religious and mercantile public, are all interested in this subject; and the best Chinese scholars ought to be invited to lend their co-operation. A grant of public money for the establishment of Chinese professorships and scholarships would probably give an impulse to the study of the Chinese language and literature. China presents a wide field for missionary enterprise; but the difficulties in the way of acquiring a knowledge of the language offer obstacles which seem to require special provision, in order that they may be successfully overcome.

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GREAT FIRE AT DOVER.

THIS seaport town has been the scene of a great conflagration, which broke out on Sunday night, on the premises of Messrs. Walker and Co., oil merchants and seed crushers, situate under Dover Cliffs, something more than a quarter of a mile from the Dover terminus. The fire was not extinguished till late on Monday evening. The loss, will, it is supposed, be between £40,000 and £50,000. The premises covered an area of ground exceeding three-quarters of an acre. The buildings were filled with seeds or oils, roughly valued at nearly £60,000, and it is exceedingly questionable whether the salvage will amount to £8000. The machinery used on the premises was also of great value, and was worked by steam-power, there being two engines in the place of from 25 to 30-horse power each; but the whole of it has been reduced to a misshapen mass by the fury of the fire. One very forlorn circumstance was, that when the fire was first seen, the authorities of the town, finding that the tide was fast ebbing, at once closed the gates of the bason, and kept plenty of water therein to supply the engines. Had it not been for this precaution, the loss of property would have been far more extensive than it is.

Mr. Bradwood went down from London by a special train with two engines of the fire brigade. The soldiers in the town worked very meritoriously to extinguish the flames. While the firemen were actively employed, Mr. Birkbeck, a gentleman connected with the South-Eastern Railway Company, was busily engaged directing the men in charge of the railway engines, when, all of a sudden, some of the firemen shouted out for all to escape, as the cliff was falling. Mr. Birkbeck and Mr. Birch, the chief clerk at the head station of the brigade, had barely sufficient time to run away, when a portion of the cliff fell, with a noise resembling the discharge of a park of artillery, burying under it the hose of one of the engines, and, it is feared, several persons who were standing near. Three or four persons who lived in Limekiln-street and Snarebrook-street, and one near the Theatre Royal, have not been heard of since Monday morning, although they were all seen near the spot a few minutes before the alarm was sounded. The amount of chalk from the cliff that fell was nearly fifty feet high, forty feet wide, and something like sixty-four feet deep, and it is estimated at 2000 tons weight. The cause of the accident was the intense heat of the fire.

The soldiers, in their anxiety to prevent the fire from spreading, pulled down several small buildings, which was exceedingly fortunate, for had not this been done, the flames would have travelled much further. Even with this precaution, the materials of the buildings thus razed became ignited.

The town of Dover will suffer materially by the disaster, as the mill destroyed was employed to furnish one portion of the inhabitants with their weekly supply of water for household purposes. Two engines and ten men were left to be ready in case of being called for. The insurance offices interested in the loss are the Atlas, the Alliance, the Norwich Union, the Globe, and the West of England. The whole of the men employed at the mills must of necessity be thrown out of employment for a considerable time, as it will take several months to rebuild the extensive range of premises.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—SATURDAY, AUGUST 13.

Several bills were forwarded a stage.

In committee on the Passengers' Act Amendment Bill, Mr. F. PEEL stated that his object was to correct some anomalies in the existing system, and to facilitate the emigration of labourers from China to the West Indies, giving the Government a control over the transport of Chinese from other than British ports in China.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to supply an omission in an act of this session respecting the redemption of the land-tax, and to enact that the power of redemption should be limited to persons having an interest in the land, and that, when effected, the tax should merge absolutely, and cease to exist.

Leave was given, and the bill passed through all its stages.

The House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills:—Public-houses (Scotland), Parish Vestries (No. 2), Highway Rates, Elections, Entries of Seamen, Lunacy Regulation, Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Act Continuance, Newspaper Stamp Duties, Crime and Outrage (Ireland), Registrar of Meetings, Municipal Corporation Act Amendment, Sheriff's Courts (Scotland), Oaths in Chancery, Naval Coast Volunteers, Land-tax Redemption, Consolidated Annuities (Ireland), Turnpike Acts Continuance (Ireland), Poor Relief Act Continuance, and several railway and private bills.

The Pilotage Bill and the Universities (Scotland) Bill went through committee. Several other bills were forwarded a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

New writs were ordered for the boroughs of Stamford and Dungarvan, in the room of Mr. Herries and Mr. Maguire, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

Mr. T. HANKEY took the oaths and his seat for Peterborough.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA BILL.

On the consideration of the Lords' amendments to this bill, the House agreed to various amendments in the clauses up to 43. On the motion that the Lords' amendment, leaving out clause 44 (relating to the salt duty) should be agreed to, Sir J. FITZGERALD expressed his strong conviction, founded on personal experience in India, of the necessity which existed for the removal of the salt duty; and, if the clause were to be omitted, he desired some security at least that the native purchaser should have salt free from adulteration.

Mr. GREGSON complained of the injustice and cruelty of enhancing the price of salt, which was a necessary of life, to men receiving very trifling wages, and recommended a great reduction of the duty. Sir C. WOOD said he had never justified the maintenance of a high duty upon this article, and he was ready to concur in a reduction of the duty, which the Indian Government were prepared to make as soon as the state of the revenue warranted the sacrifice. He had only contended that it was contrary to all sound principles for that House to take upon itself to interfere with the financial arrangements of India; and the vote to which that House had come upon this question was not for a reduction of the duty upon salt, but that the present mode of levying it was objectionable, and that an Excise duty was preferable. The amendment of their Lordships was agreed to, and the clause is therefore omitted.

Mr. SOTHERON obtained leave to bring in a bill to regulate Friendly Societies, which he proposed, he said, to circulate as widely as possible, with the view of legislating upon the subject permanently next session.

Mr. KINNAIRD called the attention of the House to the amended criminal code of Malta, which, he said, had given just offence to the Protestant inhabitants of that island. He moved a resolution condemnatory of the annexed code. A debate followed, in which Lord J. RUSSELL observed, that as Malta, when it came into our possession, was a Roman Catholic country, and as we had promised that the religion of the Maltese should be maintained and respected, punishment must be awarded against those who openly insulted that religion. Believing that the code required further consideration, he promised that the whole matter should be reconsidered, with a view to secure every respect to the Roman Catholic religion in Malta, and, at the same time, full civil and religious liberty to all her Majesty's subjects. Mr. KINNAIRD thereupon withdrew his motion.

The House adjourned shortly after six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Universities (Scotland) Bill was read a third time; the Smoke Nuisance Abatement Bill passed through committee, and was reported; and several other bills were also forwarded a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Lord J. RUSSELL made his promised statement upon the subject of the dispute between Russia and Turkey. As his Lordship merely glanced at incidents generally known to the House and the public, it will be unnecessary to follow him through an outline of transactions already sufficiently well known. He regretted the precipitate withdrawal of Prince Menschikoff from Constantinople. It was considered by both England and France that, looking at the interests at stake, it was desirable that the Turkish Government should forego its right to regard the occupation of the Danubian Principalities as a *casus belli*, and that it should not decline to enter into further negotiations, of which the Ambassadors of the two Powers endeavoured to gather up the threads. When the Russian Government had occupied the Principalities Austria changed her views, and with reference to the treaty of 1841 deemed it necessary that there should be a Conference of the Powers; and the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs having adopted a proposition of the French Government as the groundwork of a proposal to Russia, the note containing it was finally arranged and settled to the satisfaction of the four powers on the 31st of July. To this note the Emperor of Russia had given his adhesion. Supposing the matter of this note to be fully arranged, there would still remain the evacuation of the Principalities; and it was quite evident that no settlement could be satisfactory that did not include their immediate evacuation, which, according to the declaration of Prince Gortschakoff, was to follow the satisfaction obtained from Turkey. He must ask the permission of the House to say nothing more upon this head, and request that the mode of obtaining the end in view might be left in the hands of the Executive Government. He thought there was now a fair prospect that, without involving Europe in hostilities, the independence and integrity of Turkey—which he had always said was a main object of her Majesty's Government—would be secured. That object was one which required the vigilant attention of the Government, and it could only be secured by the union of England and France, and a constant and friendly communication between them.

Mr. LAYARD considered that there had been a want of that energy and decision in these transactions which would have been infused into our proceedings by Lord PALMERSTON. He dwelt in much detail upon the indications of design and artifice on the part of Russia in her conduct towards Servia, Wallachia, and Moldavia, and denounced the proceedings of her Ambassador at Constantinople. He deprecated the attempt to erect an independent Greek empire in Turkey, which, divided as Turkey was into antagonistical portions, would be broken up, like the Byzantine Empire, by similar causes. The very moment that Constantinople passed from the hands of the Turks, British India would be in jeopardy. Had Russia been told that if she entered the Turkish territories it would have been considered a *casus belli*, she would not have dared to cross the Pruth. Russia had now gained what she wanted; she had shown that she could enter Moldavia and Wallachia whenever she pleased with impunity, whereas those Principalities ought to be made, with Bessarabia, a barrier between her and Turkey. He believed that, without having fired a single shot, Russia had gained advantages which would have repaid a fierce campaign, while we had lowered ourselves in the eyes of all nations. The note prepared by Austria had been jumped at by Russia; if Turkey refused the terms, we must now join Russia against her; and if Turkey, under this terrible pressure, did accept them, we sanctioned the interference of Russia on behalf of 12,000,000 Greeks, not Greeks by nation only, but by religion. Had the cases been reversed, and Turkey had invaded the Principalities, she would have been required not merely to evacuate them, but to pay all expenses and make an ample apology; and nothing less would satisfy the ends of justice.

Sir J. PAKINGTON rejoiced that the Government had determined to

regard the evacuation of the Principalities as a *sine quâ non*, and lamented that that should still remain an unsettled point. In making their evacuation an indispensable condition, the Government would be supported, not only by that House, but by the country. All desired peace—but no longer than it could be had with a due regard to the interests and the honour of this country, and the balance of power in Europe.

Lord D. STUART censured with asperity the proceedings of Russia. If, he observed, we had had a Foreign Minister who was not a Minister of Russia or of Austria, but of England, none of these deplorable events would have occurred which had endangered the peace of the world.

Mr. MUNTZ was of opinion that if we had had a different Government a Russian army would never have marched into the Turkish territory.

Mr. COBDEN said, everybody seemed to agree that the conduct of Russia had been treacherous and violent, and to rejoice that the occurrence had brought about a sincere alliance between England and France. The opinions expressed by Lord J. Russell were those of the people of England, for he believed even Birmingham would rather support his pacific policy than precipitate the country into a war. Still there was a feeling of uneasiness in this country respecting Turkey; but there was at the same time a growing conviction in men's minds that the integrity and independence of the Turkish Empire, as a maxim of policy, had become an empty phrase and nothing more. The Turks in Europe were intruders—their home was Asia; and the progress of events had demonstrated that a Mahomedan Power could not be maintained in Europe. The independence of a country that could not maintain itself could not be upheld; and a fact had now become prominent, that for every Turk in European Turkey there were three Christians. And what was the feeling of the Christian population of Turkey towards their rulers? He believed that, in the interior, it was not favourable; and if he were a rayah subject of the Porte, he should say "Give me any Christian Government rather than a Mahomedan." This feeling of the Christian part of the population in Turkey would become an important part of the subject, and we should have to address our minds to the question hereafter what we were going to do with Turkey, for we must not think that we could keep Turkey as it is. Mr. Cobden contended that the importance of the trade with Turkey had been overrated. He maintained that all our commerce in the Black Sea was owing to Russian encroachments there. What could a country like Turkey, without roads, contribute to the commerce of the world? The balance of power might be all very well, but he protested against its being argued that we were bound, in the interest of England, to maintain Turkey. A good deal was said about the Russian power; but how absurd to talk of a Russian army invading England! Why, she could not move her forces across her own frontier without a loan. If England engaged in war, it would be attended with consequences which the present generation had not reflected upon, or they would not talk so glibly about war. The Government, he thought, had done wisely, for themselves as well as the country, in disregarding the taunts of thoughtless men and resisting the cry for war; and he did not blame them for adhering to the traditional policy of maintaining the integrity of Turkey.

Lord PALMERSTON said that Mr. Cobden had begun by talking of maintaining the independence of Turkey, and ended with endeavouring to show that Turkey was not worth defending. If he had stood there as an avowed advocate of Russia, he could not have dared to pursue a course more calculated to assist her views. Did not the hon. gentleman know that the commercial system of Russia was eminently restrictive and prohibitory; while that of Turkey was the most liberal of any country with which we had commercial relations? The resources of Turkey, which were constantly improving, tended to make her commerce every year more valuable to this country. Mr. Cobden regarded Turkey as a rotten fabric, and thought it was high time to consider what we should do with the country when we got rid of the Mahomedans. But he (Lord Palmerston) did not agree that the Turkish empire was in a state of decay; he held its maintenance to be not only desirable, but worth contending for. Turkey, so far from having gone back in the last thirty years, had made more improvements in social and moral concerns and in religious tolerance than any other country. So far from going along with Mr. Cobden, he was convinced that, if we only kept out of Turkey those who wished to get into it, there were, as far as the seeds of internal dissolution were concerned, many countries in Europe which would not bear a very favourable comparison with it. He trusted Mr. Cobden's speech would not mislead any one beyond the limits of this country; that his language would not excite abroad feelings likely to mar the efforts of her Majesty's Government; and that the great preponderance of a proper feeling upon the subject in that House would prove to the world what were the real sentiments of the British Parliament and the British nation.—Adjourned to Friday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Their Lordships met at five o'clock.

The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz.:—The Burials (beyond the Metropolis) Bill; the Consolidation Fund Appropriation Bill; the Militia Ballots Suspension and Militia Law Amendment Bill; the Land Tax Commissioners Bill; the Defacing the Coin Bill; the Linen, &c., Manufacture (Ireland) Bill; the Pilotage Bill; the Smoke Nuisance Abatement (Metropolis) Bill; the Stock in Trade Exemption Bill; and the Customs Tariff Act Bill. The other bills upon the paper were advanced a stage.—Adjourned.

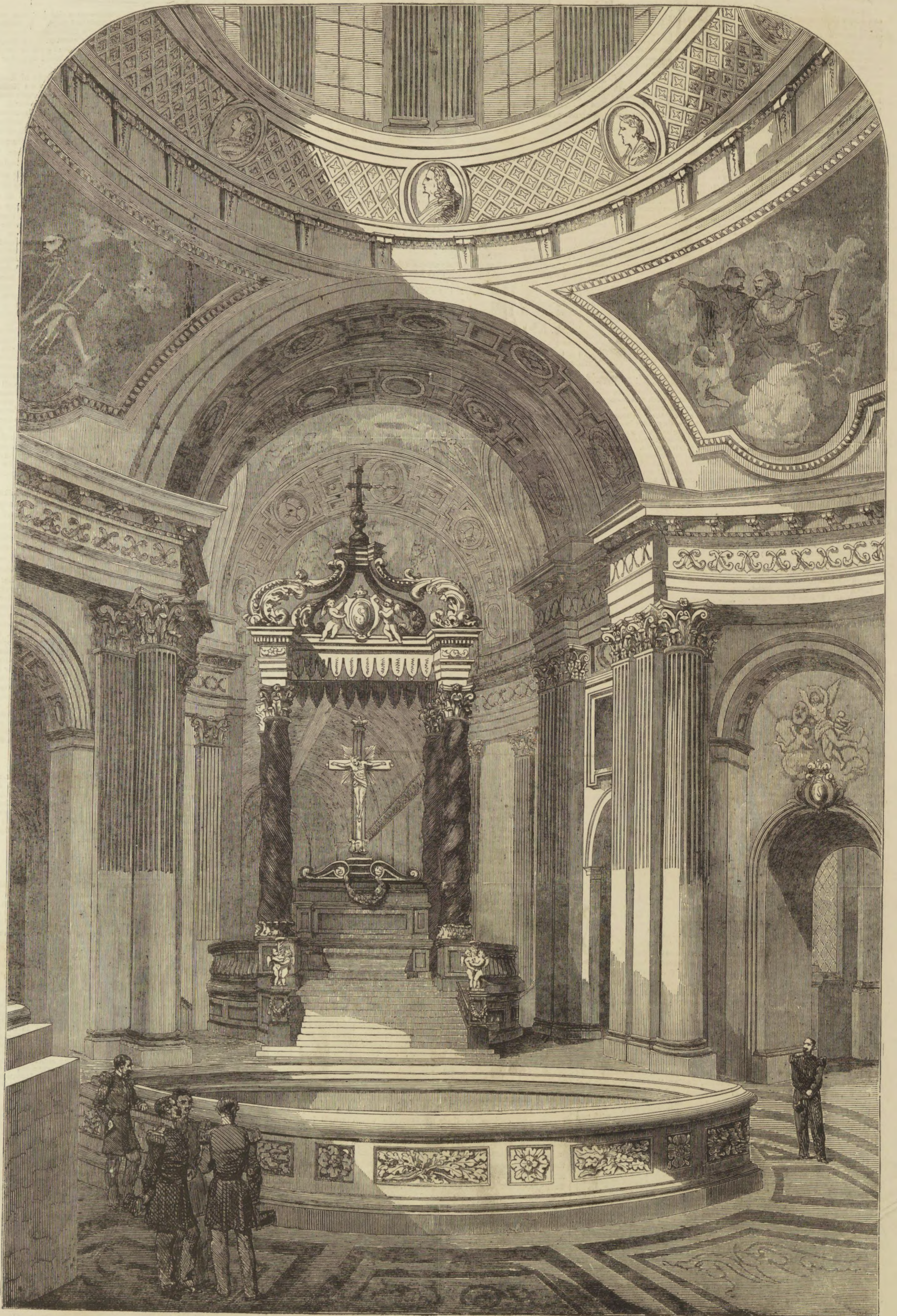
THE SMYTH FORGERIES CASE.

In our last Number we gave an account of this extraordinary trial and its result. To continue the subject, we may further state that on Thursday the prisoner, "Smyth," was brought before the Rev. Dr. Jenne, a magistrate of Gloucester, on the charge of forging and uttering certain documents; and was fully committed for trial. From the evidence of the witnesses then examined, it appears that his real name is Provis, and that he had been convicted and imprisoned for horse-stealing. His sister recognised him; and also an old pupil, who identified the prisoner as his schoolmaster, at Bath, in 1814. The seal-engravers, Moring and Cocks, proved that the seals applied to the documents had been ordered of them. It happens, too, that one of the seals was engraved by a process which has only been invented within these few years.

At the close of the proceedings, the prisoner (for whom no counsel nor attorney appeared), after receiving the usual caution from Dr. Jenne, said that, being unprotected by legal advice, he did not feel himself justified in entering into any explanation respecting any of the circumstances which had been deposed to, except that he considered that the proofs in support of the illegality of the documents had not been, in the present instance, proved by any evidence; nor the facts of the drawing, signing, or sealing by him of the deeds, or of his possession of them, except of the document marked "B" (the deed of 1833); and, considering the evidence given before the Judge of the genuineness of the signatures not being overpowered by the testimony of the witnesses examined before the magistrates, he left the matter to the magistrate's consideration. He declared himself not guilty of the charge; and, if he was committed on the charge of absolute and positive forgery, he should consider himself unjustly committed.

With reference to the trial itself, we may state that at the time when the counsel for the plaintiff threw up their briefs, there remained upwards of fifty witnesses to be examined on his behalf; while as many as eighty were present on the part of the defendant. It would have been proved by Mr. Herepath, the analytical chemist, that the deeds were undoubtedly forgeries, the will and seals being of modern date. Again, the diocesan, Dr. Monk, ascertained that Dr. Verney Lovett, who was alleged to have married Sir Hugh in Ireland, did not take his degree of D.D. until 1809, which was ten years after the alleged nuptials. It has been ascertained, likewise, that on the day on which the plaintiff swore to having seen Mrs. Way, at Heath House, that lady was not near the place. It would have been proved that, after leaving his home at an early age, the self-styled Sir Richard, in his proper name of Thomas Provis, entered service; and it was while in service that he stole a gelding, for which offence he was sentenced to death. In 1814 he was keeping a school at Ladywood, Bath, where he was charged with a serious offence; and having entered into recognisances he ran from his bail; and that, on that account, his first wife (Mary Ann Whittick) separated from him. It is said that, previous to her marriage with him, she was in service at the Smyths, at Ashton Court. Probably, much of his information as to the earlier branches of the Smyth family was derived from this source. Several members of the Bath family were present to state that they had never heard of such a person as the plaintiff in connexion with their house, and the governor of Gloucester gaol was also present.

The result of the trial has produced quite a commotion amongst the tradesmen of Clifton, who had, in the hope of gaining his future favours warmly espoused "Sir Richard's" cause, and traced him to a large extent with goods and money. It is understood, also, that the gentlemen of the Israelitish profession in London had advanced £1000 upon bonds to secure them the modest interest of £100 a year for each!



INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE INVALIDES, AT PARIS.

OPENING TO THE CRYPT CONTAINING THE TOMB OF NAPOLEON.—(SEE PAGE 128.)



FETE OF THE EMPEROR.—ILLUMINATION AND BALLOON ASCENT IN THE CHAMPS ELYSEES.—(SEE PAGE 130).

Fine Arts.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

CLEANING THE PICTURES.—THE NEW GALLERY.

ONE of the most important committees ever nominated by the Senate of this country on the subject of the Fine Arts, has just completed its Report to the House of Commons. The Committee was appointed in March last, to inquire into the management of the National Gallery; and to consider in what mode the collective monuments of Antiquity and Fine Art possessed by the nation may be most securely preserved, judiciously augmented, and advantageously exhibited to the public. The Committee consisted of Colonel Mure (chairman), favourably known by his recent work on the literature of Ancient Greece; four Lords—Lord Seymour (an active nobleman in all committees), Lord Brooke (now Earl of Warwick), Lord William Graham, and Lord Elcho (Mr. Charteris); one Baronet—Sir William Molesworth (there by his office connected with Works and Buildings); and eleven Esquires—Mr. Labouchere (distinguished by his taste and liberality as a collector), Mr. Baring Wall (equally and longer distinguished in the same way), Mr. Monckton Milnes (the poet), Mr. Stirling (author of the "Annals of the Artists of Spain"), Mr. Ewart (justly celebrated for his activity in all matters connected with the arts), Mr. Raikes Currie, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Goulburn, Mr. Hardinge, and Mr. Hamilton. This Committee, though nominated so recently as March last, has sat thirty-five times between the 18th of April and the 3rd of August; has examined very many and important witnesses; has conducted inquiries of its own; and has agreed to a Report which will carry with it the general concurrence of every unprejudiced person.

This Committee, it will be remembered, arose out of the numerous complaints made in the newspapers, and in petitions to the House, of the injury done by cleaning in 1846, during the Keepership of Sir Charles Eastlake; and in 1852, during the Keepership of Mr. Uwins. Sir Charles Eastlake was, in 1847, put on his public trial before the Trustees of the Gallery, for his labours in the autumn of 1846; and the judgment given by them, and in print, too, was, "that the report is entirely satisfactory, and justifies the confidence which the Trustees have reposed in Mr. Eastlake's judgment in respect of the treatment of the pictures in the National Gallery." This decision met with some dissentients; among whom, the loudest were Mr. Morris Moore, and his friend and fellow-labourer Mr. William Coningham—gentlemen whose zeal in the cause they consider so just, has been made patent to the world by the large type and position given to their complaints in the columns of a daily journal:—

The points on which the Committee in conducting this inquiry chiefly centered its attention were—

1. The constitution and general management of the Gallery.
2. The management of the Gallery as specially connected with picture cleaning.
3. The changes and improvements to which the system may require to be subjected.
4. The site, present or future, of the Gallery, and the expediency of combining the National Groups of Monumental Antiquity and Fine Art in one building, or group of buildings, and under a single system of management.

To enable them to arrive at sound conclusions on these four great points of inquiry, the Committee examined all classes of witnesses. They heard at length the complainants Mr. Morris Moore and Mr. Wm. Coningham; they heard two of the most active trustees of the Gallery, Mr. William Russell, the Accountant-General of the Court of Chancery, and Lord Montague, the Comptroller-General of the Exchequer. They examined the ex-keeper, Sir Charles Eastlake, and the present keeper, Mr. Uwins. They examined the actual cleaner, Mr. Segnier, and his rival cleaner in reputation, Mr. Farrer. Other witnesses came before them. The Royal Academy were represented by Sir Edwin Landseer, Sir Richard Westmacott, Mr. Stanfield, Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Hart; painters without the pale of the Academy, by Mr. Hurlstone, Mr. Lance, and Mr. Foggo; connoisseurs, by Mr. Devonport Bromley and Mr. Richard Ford; and architects and builders, by Mr. Pennethorne and Mr. Thomas Cubitt. Nor was this all. Mr. Faraday undertook an inquiry for them as to the effects of alcohol, and furnished the Committee with the results of his experiments. The evidence is not yet in print. It was, as might be expected, to a great length; but it is easy to see, from the language of the Report, in what direction the principal evidence preponderated.

If we follow the committee through its own four heads of inquiry, we find that the Trustees, as a body, are insufficient for the purposes for which they are required; that while Mr. Segnier and Sir Charles Eastlake were keepers, the responsibility of cleaning the pictures was almost entirely in their hands; but that since Mr. Uwins' appointment, the Trustees have assumed the entire responsibility of the cleaning; that the additions to the collection have not been made on any definite principle; and that many opportunities have been lost for effecting valuable additions to our limited stock of pictures illustrative of the history of art. Thus much we gather out of Inquiry 1. Inquiry 2 is devoted to the Picture Cleaning that has prevailed in the Gallery; and here the Committee had to sift the most conflicting evidence, of which the Report supplies admirable instances in the opinions advanced before them by Mr. Morris Moore and Mr. Thomas Uwins. Here is Mr. Moore's opinion:—

In regard to the effect produced by the late cleaning, Mr. Morris Moore, who had found fault with the picture cleaning in 1846, is now again the most vehement in his complaints. He states that the original painting of the master has been in many cases removed, rubbed out, and that in one case an eye has been actually wiped away and obliterated by the process of the cleaner. Other pictures, he says, have been flayed, scrubbed, and so irretrievably ruined, that whereas before they were in fine condition, they are now offensive to the sight, and deprived not only of artistic beauty, but of commercial value. He further states, that the evidence given by almost every witness is worthless, and that Sir C. Eastlake and Mr. Uwins are alone responsible for the lamentable proceedings at the National Collection.

Mr. Uwins, with equal confidence, pronounces a directly opposite opinion; he has characterised the evidence of Mr. Morris Moore as displaying a mass of ignorance and want of intelligence. He declares that one picture, so far from being brilliant before it was cleaned, was dark, dingy, and abominable in his sight; whereas now it is exactly what the master intended, all harmony and sweetness, a school of art in itself.

Sir Charles Eastlake (the ex-keeper), who, however, did not, we are told, "state his views very definitely," is of opinion that, in the cleaning of 1852, the instructions of the Trustees had been overpassed; which he afterwards interpreted by saying, that too much of the old varnish had been removed. But this is only a sample of the differences of opinion against which the Committee have had to contend. Mr. Uwins, the Keeper, and Mr. Segnier actually differ in describing what was done to the pictures cleaned in the autumn of last year.

They differ (the Report observes) as to the processes to which these pictures have been subjected. For example, Mr. Segnier states, that, after washing off certain upper coats of oil or dirt with soap and water, he partially removed the lower sounder coat of varnish from seven of the pictures by the process of friction or dry rubbing. Mr. Uwins, on the other hand, maintains that this process of friction, which he condemns as dangerous, was never employed by Mr. Segnier in his presence, and that he was daily present in the Gallery during the progress of the operation.

On the weight of evidence and the preponderance of testimony, the Committee has come to the following—as it appears to us—sensible conclusion:—

The weight of evidence varies considerably in respect of the effect produced upon each of the nine pictures which have been lately subjected to process of cleaning. In some instances the witnesses are of opinion that the operation was not required; in other cases they state that it has been either too severely or unequally performed. Even in those cases where there appears the strongest body of adverse evidence, testimony has been borne by experienced artists and amateurs to the difficulty of distinguishing in regard to a picture previously obscured by coats of dirt, or discoloured

varnish, how far the blemishes observable on the removal of such coats are to be ascribed to the cleaner last employed, or how far they may have been caused by others through whose hands the picture may have passed at various periods of its transmission from the easel of the master to the walls of the Gallery.

Another mode in which various witnesses would explain or palliate defects that have been apparent since the last cleaning has been a reference to the well-known fact, that repairs or repaints are liable to be brought away by applications which would not affect the original surface of an old seasoned picture; and therefore, that had such repairs been removed or disturbed in the last cleaning, the result might be a want of harmony, the usual remedy for which, a fresh restoration, or re-toning, is not, as has been already stated, alleged in any instance to have been resorted to by the Gallery cleaner.

Others again maintain that pictures newly-cleaned, no matter how skilfully and carefully, invariably appear at first crude and inharmonious, more especially when contrasted with other pictures that have not recently undergone the process of cleaning, and that time and exposure will restore their tone and harmony.

The preponderance of testimony is to the effect that the appearance of the pictures has for the present been rendered less agreeable by the operation of cleaning; in some of them, in regard to their general aspect, by the removal of the mellow tone which they previously exhibited; in others, from special blemishes which have become apparent, and which in a former state of the pictures were not perceptible.

Picture-cleaning is properly divided by the Committee into "Picture-cleaning in its familiar sense," and "occasional cleaning."

Picture-cleaning proper (or improper, as Messrs. Moore and Coningham would call it) "denotes the removal, by mechanical or chemical processes, in whole or in part, of the old varnishes, or other incrustations, by which a painting may be obscured, but by which it is usually also in some measure protected from injury." This process usually necessitates the re-varnishing of the picture. "The mechanical means generally employed" are stated to consist "in rubbing with the finger the surface of the varnish, when in a perfectly dry state, so as to bring the varnish off in a fine white powder; and also in the use of sharp steel instruments, without which, in some cases, dirt and incrustations of various kinds cannot, it is said, be safely or effectively removed. The chemical processes consist in the application of solvents to the surface of a picture, by which the old varnishes are removed."

The observations of the Committee on this important process are concise and sound.

One great danger of friction is said to arise from the inequalities of the surface of the picture, or of the canvas on which it is painted, the effect of which necessarily is, that the higher or more prominent portions run the risk of being over-rubbed, whilst the parts adjoining remain comparatively untouched. On the other hand, friction is stated to possess this advantage, that where a picture is painted on a smooth substance, such as wood or metal, a portion of the varnish can be rubbed off, while a thin coat may still remain as a protection to the surface paint.

Steel instruments appear to be used by many picture-cleaners, especially in Italy; but your Committee have received no evidence to show that they have been employed in the National Gallery.

So, likewise, with reference to solvents. Some witnesses, picture-cleaners, artists, and amateurs, have given it as their opinion that the safest way of cleaning a picture is by means of solvents; but it has been held by others that some solvents might not only destroy the varnish, but bite through the paint to the ground of the canvas.

Of the various solvents employed in picture-cleaning, soap and water, and spirits of wine, appear to be most in use in the National Gallery.

Soap would seem to be chiefly used for the removal of dirt or oil from the surface of a varnished picture; it requires, however, like other solvents, to be employed with extreme caution, as its alkaline qualities are calculated, in the event of its being incautiously applied, to produce the most injurious effects upon the texture and colour of a picture.

With regard to spirits of wine, it has been stated to your Committee that a seasoned oil painting is not susceptible of injury from its application; and that, consequently, there can be no risk in using it in a pure state for the purpose of removing dirt or varnish from a picture of the above description.

The Committee very properly endeavoured to ascertain from Mr. Uwins the system which had been pursued in regard to the cleaning of pictures during the period of his keepership. The result is curious:—

It appears from his evidence, that he strongly recommended to the Trustees the cleaning of "The Consecration of St. Nicholas," a picture by Paul Veronese; but, with this single exception, he never spoke to the Trustees on the subject of picture-cleaning, nor was he ever consulted by them. He considered it his duty to attend to the directions of the Trustees, and not to offer any suggestions, either as to the pictures which in his opinion required cleaning, nor as to the process to be adopted. The statement of Mr. Uwins has, however, been met by the evidence of several Trustees, to the effect that Mr. Uwins was habitually present in his official capacity at the meetings of the Board; and that it has always been understood that he was authorised and expected, on such occasions, to give his opinion, even when not formally consulted, especially on matters of a technical description. Your Committee do not feel competent to decide as to such delicate points of difference between the Trustees and their chief officer.

From the experiments undertaken by Mr. Faraday, at the request of the Committee, in order to test the value of these conflicting opinions as to the effects of alcohol, it appears—

That a vehicle of pure oil is, in fact, little, if at all, affected by an application of spirits of wine. The same experiments, however, have shown that a slight addition to that oil, of varnish, or of the resinous substances of which varnish is usually composed, would render the paint proportionally as susceptible of decomposition from alcohol as the varnish with which the picture is covered. It is stated that such an addition has been more or less customary with some painters in every period of the art of oil painting; and while this fact sufficiently explains the contradictory evidence as to the effect of alcohol upon pictures, it forcibly proves the danger which is to be apprehended from the incautious application of chemical solvents to the works of the ancient masters.

There are other points of dispute, thus:—

When a picture has passed through the above-stated mechanical or chemical processes, it still requires, according to the evidence of some witnesses, a certain tone to be given to it, without which it will appear crude, harsh, and inharmonious. How this tone can be attained, is again a matter of dispute; some persons consider that fresh colour, or a thin wash of coloured varnish, should be applied; others assert that time will restore the mellowness which cleaning has removed; artists even recommend that the picture should be again exposed, so that it may gather a thin veil of dirt, which, it is said, will be favourable to its effect. These opinions are contradicted by other witnesses, who affirm that the tone of a painting, when once lost, can never be restored, and that picture-cleaners destroy the works of art which they pretend to improve. This practice of toning does not, however, appear to have been resorted to in the National Gallery.

Another point brought before the Committee was the necessity of re-lining pictures. Here, again, the doctors disagree:—

It is maintained by witnesses of high professional reputation, that in many cases a picture cannot be safely cleaned and restored until it has been re-lined.

This operation consists in the removal of the damaged canvas, or other material on which the picture is painted, and the substitution of a fresh canvas.

It is obviously a work of difficulty, involving, therefore, considerable risk; but evidence has been given that it can be executed in a thoroughly skilful and satisfactory manner; and one witness has stated that in his opinion the process of lining has never been so well understood as it is in the present day.

We now approach the precautions for the future embodied in the Report. Here they are:—

That no picture-cleaner shall be employed in the Gallery who declines to give a full and distinct explanation of the mode in which, and the materials with which, he proposes to operate on the pictures submitted to him for treatment.

That no picture shall hereafter be cleaned, lined, or otherwise repaired without a previous written report from the Director of the Gallery to the Trustees.

That the Trustees shall, if they see fit, appoint a Commission, consisting of not less than three experienced persons, including one practical chemist, by whom the picture shall be carefully examined.

That the Commission shall draw up a report, stating whether it is desirable that the picture should be cleaned or repaired; and, if so, as to the mode and extent in which the operation should be performed.

That the recommendation of the Committee of 1850, as to the permanent protection of the backs of the pictures, shall, with all convenient speed, but with the necessary precaution, be carried into effect; and that, until the whole collection shall be so protected, the back of each picture shall, at least once a year, be relieved of the dust or impurities which it may have contracted.

That no varnish should be used in the Gallery without the sanction of the Director, who shall be responsible for the mode of its composition and the quality of its materials.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee are twelve in number. The information in brackets we gather from other portions of the Report:—

1. That a system of management by a Board of Trustees should be continued.
2. That no person should in future, in virtue of any office, become a Trustee of the National Gallery.
3. That the Trustees be appointed by the Treasury.
4. That it is expedient that the number of Trustees be diminished as vacancies occur.
5. That the office of Keeper of the Gallery should be abolished.
6. That a salaried Director (with a salary of not less than £1000 a year) should be appointed by the Treasury for a definite time (at least five years); at the expiration of which he may be re-appointed. [The present salary of the Keeper is only £300 a year.]
7. That every recommendation for the purchase of a picture should originate with the Director, and be made in writing to the Trustees.
8. That a fixed sum should be annually proposed to Parliament for the purchase of pictures, and placed at the disposal of the Trustees.
9. That the site of the present National Gallery is not well adapted for the construction of a new Gallery.
10. That the estate at Kensington Gore, purchased by the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851, and by them offered to the nation, presents many of the advantages recommended by the witnesses before your Committee. The position which has been suggested at the extremity of Kensington Gardens would afford a better guarantee for the future protection of the works of art there collected from the evils incident to a crowded neighbourhood, and would improve the opportunity of erecting an edifice worthy of the purpose; but your Committee are fully aware that the acquisition of such a site is attended with difficulties they see no adequate means of removing; and, in consequence, they are prepared to recommend the acceptance of the offer of the Commissioners.
11. That the question of combining the various artistic and archaeological collections in the British Museum with the National Gallery be referred to a Royal Commission.
12. That no time should be lost in obtaining the decision upon the above question, in order that the new National Gallery should be commenced with all convenient speed.

The Committee were unanimous, all but one, for the removal of the National Gallery from its present site. The dissentient was Mr. Baring Wall; but his reasons for adhering to Trafalgar-square are not given.

In concluding our notice of this Report, we cannot help expressing the difference of opinion which we entertain from the second recommendation of the Committee, that in future "the Trustees of the Gallery be appointed by the Treasury." The Prime Minister is now the universal dispenser of patronage in this country; he is presumed to know everything, and to know everything better than anybody else. Now, the numerous and increasing avocations of a Prime Minister will not enable him to pay sufficient attention to other pursuits than those particular Cabinet Councils in which he is immediately engaged. Mr. Disraeli was obliged to neglect his literary calling while Chancellor of the Exchequer; and it is impossible that Lord Aberdeen, or Lord John Russell, or Lord Derby, or Mr. Cobden, can be "up" in financial and Fine Art matters; to say nothing of the church and lay patronage which the Prime Minister has to distribute with advantage to the public, and satisfaction to his own conscience, in the midst of heated debates, crabbed interviews with deputations, and the discussion of measures applicable alike to Russia and Turkey.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. IV.

A FRIEND OF TALLEYRAND.

It is singular that among the numerous reminiscences of the modern French Machiavel with which the press was inundated for months after his death, and many of which were puerile as well as apocryphal, so little should have been said of his protégé and confidant, M. de Montrond; who, nevertheless, well deserved mention, were it only as a type of that class of individuals who, born with all the elements of personal distinction, are content, from some deficiency in their moral organisation, to live on the distinction of others. Such persons are, in this day, becoming rare; universal progression has induced a more exacting temper of mind among all ranks; and men who might, half a century ago, have been content to profit by the energies of others, and to reap that which they had been too indolent to sow, are now each anxious to put his own hand to the sickle, in order to appropriate the whole harvest. Doubtless, in some points of view, society at large must be a gainer by this general spirit of speculation; but the psychologist loses, meanwhile, an interesting, and by no means unprofitable study; while there can be little hesitation in affirming that the parasite was to his patron as great a luxury as a Mansion-house banquet to a *bon-vivant*, or a shower of bouquets to a *première danseuse*.

How much, then, must this luxury have been enhanced to the ex-Bishop of Autun, when, in the person of M. de Montrond, he possessed not only a partisan, but also a *spirituel* and careless companion, who suffered his own witticisms to be attributed to his illustrious friend, without one effort to reclaim their paternity; whose political principles were so flexible that he passed from the interests of the Monarchy to those of the Directory, thence to those of the Empire, and subsequently to those of the Restoration, with a composure equal to that of his great model, without one comment calculated to ruffle his equanimity; and who, finally, exerted, without any apparent effort, the useful talent of fixing upon himself all the blame of his patron's occasional mistakes, and of leaving to him all the credit of his own successful suggestions.

Such an individual was M. de Montrond; and nature had admirably fitted him for the part which he was destined to play in the great drama of society. Young, handsome, and high bred, full of a certain talent which at once captivated those with whom he was brought into contact, M. de Montrond first made his appearance in the fashionable circles of Paris a short time previous to the Revolution of '89, and became at once the idol of the gay and luxurious. His style of living was equally elegant and profuse; although the most envious of his associates never succeeded in discovering the source from whence he derived his revenues. At that period the Court of France was too frivolous to waste time in solving such a problem, and too polished to put inconvenient questions; and thus the young *élegant* lived on, scattering his *louis-d'ors* as though they grew up beside his path, and winning golden opinions from those who profited by his profusion. It sufficed that M. de Montrond was amiable, witty, and generous—that he rode the finest horses—gave the most exquisite dinners—and indulged in all possible extravagances that fashion either approved, prescribed, or tolerated. Even the hyper-fastidious could demand no more; and it was only just that he should become the fashion. If there were no laurels to be gained in such a career, none could deny that M. de Montrond wore his roses gracefully. He was the most winning of guests—the most lavish of Amphitryons—no one possessed in a more exalted degree the art of pleasing. Nature, as we have already stated, had done much for him, and education had completed the work. It had been the aim and end of his ambition to be distinguished as one of the most charming individuals of his time—and he had succeeded to perfection. He was quoted and copied by the men—idolized and caressed by the women. At once modest and self-possessed, he ruffled no dignity, combated no prejudices, exacted no deferences. The incense burnt upon his altar never intoxicated the deity: to him the day was ever all-in-all, and the morrow a perspective unsaddened by a single doubt or a single anxiety. A brilliant sparkle upon the tide of life, he glided onward—bright, rapid, and attractive—as though the fouler objects flung to the surface were never destined to come in contact with his own effulgence.

M. de Montrond, thus constituted, could not long remain unnoticed by so shrewd and far-sighted an observer as the Prince Benevento, who, accordingly, did not fail to make his acquaintance. Dazzled by the brilliant intellect, and fascinated still more by the graceful bearing of the young stranger, he invited him to his house, and they soon became fast friends: the age and rank of the Prince giving to their intimacy a character of protection which was not without its value to both parties. Ere long the man of fashion was the inseparable companion of the man of expediency; and, whatever may have been the spell exercised by de Montrond over the spirit of his self-constituted patron, it is but just to the latter to record the fact, that amid all the mutations of his career, that spell was never broken. Talleyrand violated treaties, forswore pledges, forsook old masters to consort with their enemies, played with the interests of a great nation as lightly as boys blow bubbles, but never for an instant did he abandon the fortunes of the favourite to whom he had promised his protection and support. He burst like an *athlète* the strong cords of political and social duties: but the fragile thread by which he had bound himself to de Montrond remained unsevered to the last. He betrayed Kings, and trifled with the great ones of the earth; but he was true to the brilliant follower who had won alike his admiration and his regard. And on his side, de Montrond responded to this trust and this affection. He was acute enough to feel that he could win no worthier patron than the political Atlas, who bore, at times, the whole burthen of European

interests upon his single shoulders. The school was a subtle one: the master sufficient; and de Montrond was an apt scholar. Nor was it long ere he, too, learned to look, on all public measures only with an eye to their bearing upon himself, and on those upon whom he depended.

For awhile the young diplomatist remained a mere obscure pawn upon the great political chess-board where Talleyrand checkedmate Kings. But when the ex-Bishop of Autun had secured the confidence of the Republic, and became its Ambassador to England, he introduced his young friend at the Court of St. James; not in an official character, it is true, but secretly employed in the negotiation which was then pending between the two Governments. Nor was the perspicuity of the great statesman at fault when he measured the capabilities of the pseudo man of fashion; for, throughout the whole of the transaction, de Montrond, novice as he had so lately been in State affairs, displayed an intelligence, an aptitude, and a craft, which would have done credit to a man of twice his years. Talleyrand watched him narrowly, and with every succeeding day saw reason to place greater confidence alike in his talent and in his attachment.

Nothing could excite the ambition of de Montrond; he cared neither for rank nor place; and, at each succeeding offer of the one or the other, he constantly replied by indicating some individual whom he knew to be a candidate for its advantages.

"Life is so short, and so triste," he would say, "that high-sounding titles and empty dignities only make it briefer and gloomier." But when, instead of place, he was offered pension; when, instead of gaud he was offered gold, then, indeed M. de Montrond listened with a willing ear. He loved gold—not for its own sake; he loved it as a means, not as an end. He could conceive no greater luxury than waste; and, like the relatives of Mazarin, who, just as he had breathed his last, amused themselves by flinging his hoarded riches out of the windows by handfuls, believing them to be exhaustless; so de Montrond no sooner profited by the indulgence of the Minister (who, anxious to serve him in his own way, included him in all his most promising speculations; and even, as it was confidently asserted, gave him from time to time such secret information as rendered his transactions at the Bourse anything but ventures), than he scattered his lightly-won gains right and left; feeling that, thanks to his powerful patron, he was independent of income, patrimony, or landed estates. Careless of the future, the present was all in all to him; and he existed amid the splendours of a Prince, and the luxurious personal indulgences of a man of the world. The elegance of his dress, the sumptuousness of his equipages, and the elaborate magnificence of his residence, were the admiration of all Paris; while he never wasted a thought upon the possible precariousness of his position, or made one attempt to secure to himself a provision for his age. So great was his improvidence that this spoilt child of fortune was sometimes not worth five sous in the world; and the opulent man of a few months back was occasionally so overwhelmed by debt, and harassed by duns, that he had recourse to the most extraordinary expedients. But these reverses never affected either his habits or his unalterable good-humour. Where he could render a service, he was heart and soul in the attempt; but every endeavour was vain to induce him to resent an injury. "I have not courage to hate any one," he was accustomed to say, "not even those to whom I am under an obligation."

"I cannot imagine," said a Princess of the Imperial family to him, upon one occasion, "what can attach you so strongly to M. de Talleyrand."

"Why should you be surprised, Madame?" was the retort of the elegant courtier; "who could help loving him? He is so vicious." Nor was the minister less accustomed than himself to indulge his wit at the expense of his friend. M. de Montrond was proverbially unscrupulous at the card-table—a little foible which did not fail to involve him from time to time in certain dilemmas, from which he did not always extricate himself without difficulty. One day he complained to his patron, that, after a mistake of this nature, his adversary had threatened to throw him out of the window.

"Montrond," said the Prince gravely, "I had already advised you never to play except on the ground-floor."

Such was the chosen friend of M. de Talleyrand. Neither time nor reverses had power to change his nature for an hour; and throughout sixty long and eventful years, he pursued the same extraordinary career: light-hearted, frivolous, dissipated in the widest extent of the word, a gambler, and a duellist, his equanimity was never shaken; and he was truly a philosopher, if philosophy can be admitted to be compatible with the indulgence of every species of vice and self-indulgence.

Never was de Montrond known to shed a tear save on one occasion, and that was when he wept over the dead body of his patron; and this merit must at least be conceded to him, that, unlike others who had partaken of the munificence of the deceased Minister, and shared his confidence, he did not seek to profit by that patron's decease to betray his trust, and to earn a few dishonourable pounds by revealing his secrets, garbling his opinions, and exposing his failings. As a Minister the world had a right to judge his memory; but, as a man, surely his private and familiar associates would have done well, one and all, to imitate the honest discretion of M. de Montrond, and not to have bartered their knowledge of their former benefactor for the stipulated "thirty pieces of silver."

The subject of our Sketch followed his illustrious patron to the grave in October, 1843.

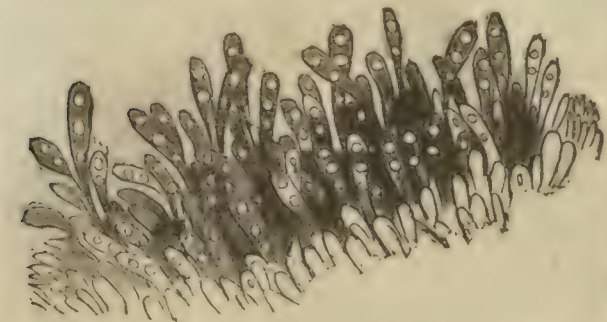
THE BLIGHT OF THE VINES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

OPORTO, July 29, 1853.

Sir,—Observing mention made in your paper of the repetition this year of the blight on the vines at Madeira, and its appearance at Tenerife, I beg to acquaint you with the fact of its existence also in Portugal, as proved by various accounts from the wine districts; but to what extent it is, at present, difficult to say. About Oporto, even in airy and dry situations, and, now after two months of dry, warm weather, it is met with in abundance.

Having examined some affected grapes with a very powerful magnifier, the appearance presented was, little more or less, what I have attempted to represent on the enclosed paper. It is a club-shaped parasite, of the



fungus kind, I should fancy, by its strong mushroomy but disagreeable smell, growing luxuriantly on the grape; each plant or branch being intersected by several transparent lobes. To detach them from the grape some comparative force is necessary, although to the naked eye their appearance is only that of flour or white dust.

I think there is no doubt the disease here is identical with that in the Islands. It is not, I am told, an entirely new thing, it having before been observed, but not, apparently, to the extent of this year's, nor to excite fears as to its effect on the succeeding vintage as now.

I beg to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

P. W. FOWLER.

P.S.—I have omitted to say the effect produced on the affected grapes is first a shrinking and withering, then a drying and cracking, protrusion of the seeds, and death. The round, hard plumpness leaves the grape when once it is covered with the blight.

BRADSHAW'S RAILWAY GUIDE FOR AUGUST contains an improvement which merits notice. In the Time Table department a new arrangement assists the traveller to connect the different junctions with the main lines and their branches. This is effected by the numbers introduced into the station columns of the pages, and which numbers refer to various connections with other lines, pointing out continuous routes. Thus, at page 57, we refer the traveller to three folio numbers, which on being turned to, give him immediately the direct route from four places to Preston—i.e. from London, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester, and so on through the entire branches.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

. Our Chess column is unavoidably deferred.

G. D. G.—See Akerman's "Works on Greek and Roman Coins," published by J. R. Smith, Soho-square.

S. H. L'Amico.—The seat of the Earl of Essex, near Watford, Herts, is named Cassiobury, from its being in Cassio hundred; but, some antiquaries, adopting Camden's location of the Cassi in the hundred, call the seat Sassobury. Mr. Britton has adopted this opinion in his folio "Account."

NAUTILUS, Portsmouth; and E. D., Manchester.—Declined. ZENO.—A satisfactory work on "Dancing" is published by Mitchell, Red-Lion-court, Fleet-street. Blais has written the "History of Dancing," and Archdeacon Nares, when young, wrote a small work on the "Pantomime-ballet."

DELTA.—A statuette is a small statue.

DEUS, Oxford.—The style and description are correct.

BRUTUS, Maldon, Essex; and PETER, Sidmouth.—Chobham, Surrey, is pronounced Tchobham. There is also in the same county, Cobham, near Walton-on-Thames. In Domesday Book, Chobham is called Cebeham.

H. I., Greenwich.—The learned Dr. Arbuthnot, a writer of sound English, employs "spoonfulls."

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The charge for an advertisement in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, when ascertained, can be remitted in postage stamps.

PYTHIAS.—The number of votes recorded in favour of Louis Napoleon's election as President of the French, in December, 1851, was 7,439,216; negative votes, 640,737; total registered, 8,116,773.

HOTTENTOT.—In Sardanapalus, the accent is on the penult, or last syllable but one.

S. C. I., Wellingborough, will, perhaps, favour us by sending an original Sketch.

FLORA.—The "Arabian Nights" (tales) are, in part, from an Indian source. (See "Arabia," "Penny Cyclopædia.")

J. J. B.—See the "Secretary's Assistant," published by Whittaker and Co.; and any "Letter-Writer" of recent date.

M. A. F.—Apply respecting the impressions to Mr. Webster, coin-dealer, 17, Great Russell-street, Covent-garden.

MINUTIAS.—See Delamotte's work on Photography, recently published.

H. C., Sheffield.—See the "Handbook of Games," published by H. Bohn.

CAROTIA H., Holt, had better employ a stonemason.

A. L.—Apply for Daguerrotype Apparatus to Horne, Thornethwaite, and Co., Newgate-street.

PARUS.—See Wade's Shilling "Red Book on Hydraulics."

M. L., Cratham, should address her application to the reverend gentleman, Wadsworth Common.

ALEXANDER, Liverpool.—I leaming and Tibbings's French Dictionary.

LELIA.—There is a Wood-Engraving Class in the Government School of Design, at Marlborough-house.

O. H. and M. W.—See the "Practical Instructions in Wood-Engraving," in No. 114 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

J. W., Gibraltar.—Address Patrick Park, Esq., sculptor, Manchester.

A CONSTANT READER, Blackpool.—The Assyrian inscriptions have not been published by the trustees of the British Museum. Apply to the Royal Asiatic Society, New Burlington-street.

P. R. is thanked; but the Cologne Relic is not to our taste.

Will ONE WHO THOROUGHLY UNDERSTANDS NEWSPAPERS favour us with his name and address?

W. T., Paisley.—Consult Bartsch's "Catalogue of Rembrandt's Works."

Your question, however, cannot be answered by even the most knowing in such matters unless they had seen your point.

A SUBSCRIBER, Norwich.—A person left as executor to a will of his nearest relative may decline to act after seeing the tenor of the will, if even he has, prior to the will being drawn up, given permission to have his name inserted in the will as executor.

A SUBSCRIBER, Clapham Common.—A knot, in seamen's language, is a division of the log-line, serving to measure the rate of the vessel's motion; and the number of knots which run off the reel in half a minute shows the number of miles the vessel sails in an hour.

H. M. R.—The Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer receive salaries of equal amount—£2000 a year.

C. A. S.—The population of the city of New York was, at the date of the last census, in 1850, 515,394 souls. The state of New York contained a population of upwards of 3,000,000.

AN ANTIQUARIAN.—We have already illustrated the principal antiquities of Chichester.

E. L. T.—Declined.

H. M. G., Oxford.—The sketch sent is from a Tetradrachm of Athens, worth about 7s.

P. C. C.—We cannot advise you.

G. C., Peterborough.—There is no provision in the act of 1844, alluded to by our Correspondent, for abolishing country bank notes.

NEMO.—Mr. Hunt's Manual of Photography" contains the most practical information. "Thornthwaite's Guide" is a lower-priced book, and valuable within certain limits.

EDWARD A. COPLAND.—Twenty grains of oxide of silver, dissolved by means of sixty grains of the cyanide of potassium in an ounce of water, will answer well. The stereoscopic pictures may be, and are, taken on both glass and paper.

STARLIGHT, Kingston.—It is impossible to give you any account of your coins, from the rudeness of the drawings.

R. R., Kendal.—A French counter struck at Nuremberg, neither interesting nor valuable.

CAROLUS, London.—Yours is a copper coin of Justinus II., A.D. 565 (578), and of no value.

M. D.—Thomas Wentworth, Lord Raby, created Earl of Strafford, in 1711, died in 1759. It is so stated by Burke in the "Extinct Peerage."

It was the Hon. Thomas Watson Wentworth (nephew and heir of William, Earl of Strafford), who died in 1723.

A. B., Shropshire.—Arms of Edderley: "Arg. on a chev., between three cinquefoils gu., as many bezants."

J. J. B.—Liveries are regulated by the arms. The principal tincture is the leading colour—the first charge, the other. In the blazon "Gu. on a chev., between three falcons arg., as many pellets." The liveries should be "red" (any shade will do) and "white."

S. D.—Viscount Villiers has, we believe, three sons and two daughters.

CLERICUS.—A man is not allowed to marry his aunt, either of the whole or of the half blood.

SCRUTATOR.—The names of the Elwos family depend altogether on the wording of the Royal licence, a reference to which will at once set the point at rest. It is possible that General Timms was authorised to adopt the additional surnames of Hervey Elwos, and his descendants to use simply those names.

A CONSTANT READER inquires "Whether the money advanced by the Treasury towards the drainage in Ireland is expended? and, if so, whether there is a probability of a renewal of any further grant?"

MEDICUS.—The Heralds' College does not sanction a prescriptive right to arms. None but grantees, or those whose ensigns were registered at "the Visitations," are acknowledged by them—a limit opposed, in our opinion, to the original laws of heraldry. The right, admitted at the Visitations, was merely prescriptive; and our oldest families can show no other. The bearings of Dowell, as recorded in the work referred to by our Correspondent, may be traced on ancient seals, monuments, carvings, and plate, and are surely the rightful insignia of the Dowells of the present day.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE COMMENCEMENT.—You are entitled to impale your wife's arms with your own: that is, to place your arms on the right side, your wife's on the left. If, however, the lady be an heiress, her shield is borne, not by impalement, but on an escutcheon of pretence.

CATALOGUS.—See a "Handbook of Records," recently published, and to be had of any law bookseller.

IGNORAMUS; M.P.; and a SUBSCRIBER.—The use of a cockade seems to us to be confined to military or naval, or to those holding in some way military or naval rank: for instance, Deputy-Lieutenants are entitled to it; a Justice of the Peace has, *ipso facto*, no claim.

O. G.—1. No lady can confer on her descendants the right to quarter her arms, unless she be an heiress in the heraldic meaning of the term, which is "a lady who has no brother, or whose brothers have died without issue." The inheritance of property does not, in any way, affect the question. 2. The Baronet's daughter would, even after her marriage, retain her rank, and take precedence.

CYMRU.—William IV. was King of Hanover.

A CONSTANT READER.—Mrs. Penderell and her son Richard (so loyally distinguished in the escape of Charles II., resided at Hobbal Grange, a small farmhouse, a mile and a half west of Boscomb. There were four other sons; and a daughter, the wife of Francis Yates, of Langley-lane. Descendants of the right loyal Penderells continue to receive the annuities granted for their ancestors' services to the King. John Gifford, Esq., of Chillingham, is now sole trustee.

A NINE YEARS' SUBSCRIBER.—The address of Mr. Tidd Pratt is 5, Bolton-street, Piccadilly.

E. L. T.—By using the harness with the crest on it, you will render yourself liable to the tax on armorial bearings.

COCKADE.—A retired officer of the army may fairly continue the use of the cockade.

GUILDS.—There are several Cambridgeshire families of Chapman, to which arms are recorded; but we do not identify any with Hertfordshire. Arms of Legge: "Az. a buck's head cabossed arg. Crest: Out of a ducal coronet, or, a plume of five ostrich feathers; three arg., two az."

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER is anxious to ascertain the date of the death, and the arms, of the Rev. John Smith, Vicar of Borden (Kent), living in 1765, whose son Edw. was Vicar of Mistead, Kent; as well as the maiden name of his wife Jane, who, as a widow, was living at Sittingbourne in 1777 and 1789.

FURUS.—What is the name of the family whose arms are quartered. It is impossible to decide without knowing it.

THE CAMP AT CHOBHAM.

SATURDAY.

The proceedings at the Camp partook more of the character of a grand drill or parade day than of the usual field movements, there being no enemy and no definite plan of attack. Many of the evolutions of the troops were well conceived and brilliantly executed, and considerable improvement was visible in the firing of the rear ranks in file firing. The forces were under the command of Lord Seaton.

MONDAY.

There was a numerous attendance at the Camp to-day; but by no means so large as anticipated. A great many people who arrived at the Camp at about eleven were considerably more disappointed than pleased to find that the troops had all marched off across the Common two hours before, and were then in full engagement at Bagshot—nearly five miles distant from the Camp. A far more brilliant field-day was anticipated than really took place. The sham battle was long—fatiguing to all concerned in it—and was fought over a large space of ground. It was, in fact, but a long brigade field-day, and at no time represented the doubtful and gallantly-contested struggles which used to take place at Chobham.

TUESDAY

Was an unpropitious day, and little or nothing was done.

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY.

On Wednesday there was a brilliant field-day and sham-fight. The Duke of Cambridge afterwards assembled the officers of the cavalry, and thanked them for their conduct, and also the men under their orders. Thursday was devoted to sports in the Camp; and, on

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,

The different corps left the "Field of Chobham," for their various destinations.

The illustration upon the preceding page—from a drawing by Mr. Parrott—represents a scene of "Repose" in the Camp, in which the privates of the 42nd are cleaning their arms and accoutrements; the piper is discoursing his stirring strains, and the smoke denotes the domestic arrangements in progress.

SUITING THE AIR.—At the dinner at Sydney given lately, in celebration of the gold discovery—after the toast "The Army and Navy," airs, "The British Grenadiers" and "Rule Britannia"—the Colonial Secretary proposed "The Bench and the Bar," air "Balance a Straw." Mr. Justice Therry returned thanks on behalf of the bench, and was followed by the Solicitor-General, who acknowledged the toast on behalf of the bar. He said he noticed that to the last toast there were two airs. Now why should not the bench and the bar each have a separate air? The air for the bench was "Balance a straw;" he would suggest that the air for the bar should be "Splitting a hair."

FRENCH FISHERMEN ON THE SCOTCH COAST.—A remonstrance has been sent from Dunbar to the Treasury, stating that from seventy to 100 large French luggers were fishing every night amidst our boats, and that, from the rapidity with which they drive, they were causing havoc and destruction to the gear of our men. Lord Elcho and the Scotch Lord of the Treasury laid the matter before Sir James Graham, who instantly ordered another steamer north to protect the fisheries. It is stated that the Frenchmen have taken almost entire possession of the Northumberland coast; but her Majesty's steam-vessel *Tartarus* went south on Thursday morning, and, it is to be hoped, will put matters to rights.

FETE TO MESSRS. WHATMAN AND LEE, AT VINTERS PARK, NEAR MAIDSTONE.

On Wednesday, last week, the return of Messrs. Whatman and Lee, the members for the borough of Maidstone, was commemorated by the electors and all ranks of the Liberal party, upon a most extensive scale, which has few parallels in the records of such celebrations. The scene of the Fête was the beautiful Park of Vinters, where a vast booth was erected to seat 4100 persons. It was 300 feet in length, and 98 feet in width. It covered no less than half an acre, 27 poles, and 30 yards of ground; and was fitted up with 78 tables, the aggregate length of which was 5 furlongs 19 poles, or upwards of half a mile; and the seats for the company measured 1 mile 2 furlongs 3 poles in length. To cover this large area, with the sides and ends, 33,266 superficial feet of canvas were required.

Within the booth, one table 295 feet long was raised nearly 12 inches above the level of the other tables; and a platform 16 feet square was erected for the better accommodation of Julien's band. The calculation for accommodating the vast multitude expected to be seated within the booth allowed 7 feet 4 inches for each person, which proved to be ample. The roof was constructed in one span, and had a light and pleasing effect. The total weight of the materials used in the booth was about 80 tons.

Long lines of crockery, flanked by apparently interminable platoons of knives and forks, glittered over half an acre of table cloth, with a profusion of fine joints of meat, of tea-cakes, bread and butter, water-cresses, &c. The poles by which the tent was supported, and the sides of the marquee, were tastefully decorated with evergreens; while from the canvas roof above depended a multitude of small, handsome banners, bearing the arms of England, with sundry other shields and devices. The Park with the fine mansion of Mr. Whatman, and the gardens, were thrown open to the public on the occasion.

The sports, which formed no small part of the day's pleasures, consisted of cricket-playing, quoiting, dancing on the green sward, the old English game of "kissing in the ring," and archery.

The number of persons of all ages assembled by four o'clock could not have been less than fourteen or fifteen thousand; and a majority of them congregated in the vicinity of the marquee at the time fixed for tea. At half-past four the entrances to the tent were thrown open, when upwards of four thousand guests seated themselves. Among those near the seat of C. Ellis, Esq., the Chairman of this "monster meeting," were James Whatman, Esq., and W. Lee, Esq., the members for Maidstone, and the especial guests of the occasion; Mrs. Whatman, Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, of Stode-hill, the Rev. R. Cobb, C. Swaisland, Esq., of Crayford, C. W. Swaisland, Esq., Captain Baker, A. Anderson, Esq., of Horsmonden, A. Smith, Esq., and a number of ladies and gentlemen from various parts of the county, as well as from the immediate vicinity of Maidstone. The arrangements for providing the tea were admirably carried out. The after-grace having been pronounced, and silence called, the Chairman called upon the company to drink the health of the Queen three times three, with three hearty rounds of Kentish cheers, which were accordingly given; and the National Anthem was played by the band.

The Chairman then in an eloquent speech, proposed the toast of the day, observing, "We are met together to celebrate the triumph of Liberal principles in the borough of Maidstone, in the return of Mr. Whatman and Mr. Lee to the House of Commons (loud cheers). I rejoice exceedingly at the gain thus obtained in the Liberal majority of the House; but, with every respect for the gentlemen on my right and left (Messrs. Whatman and Lee), I venture to say that I rejoice more at the principle we have achieved—viz., that we have carried those gentlemen to Parliament by pure and righteous means (Continued cheering). This borough has certainly returned members to the House of Commons for three centuries at least. In what manner our forefathers for the first two centuries executed their trust history does not inform us; but we have the fact from our fathers and from our own observation, that for the last century bribery and corruption have prevailed in this borough to an enormous extent; and let me be distinctly understood as not wishing to conceal anything, those wicked means have been resorted to both by Tories and Whigs (Hear, hear). But the question has arisen within these last few years as to whether it did not become our bounden duty to put an end, if possible, to such vicious practices. The worthy Chairman then recapitulated the history of the election contests in Maidstone since the year 1835, and minutely detailed the eventful return of Mr. Whatman and Mr. Lee at the general election of 1852, and proposed the health of those gentlemen, which was drunk with enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. Whatman, on rising, was received with loud applause. After thanking the company, and congratulating them upon the great triumph they had achieved in carrying out those great principles which they so nobly adopted last year; Mr. Whatman referred to the proceedings of the present session of Parliament, commencing with the passing of the Succession-duty Bill, which imposes a tax on a party exempt from that tax in the shape of a Legacy-duty before, but to a very small extent; and, on the other hand, it relieves a much greater proportion of property which was before taxed. Mr. Whatman then referred to the continuation of the Income-tax, the very small number of petitions presented against which proved that the country was almost unanimously in favour of it. The benefits expected from the Trusts Bill were then glanced at; and Mr. Whatman concluded by expressing his delight in seeing the acre of canvas and three-quarters of a mile of tables so well filled.

Mr. Lee was also vehemently cheered in rising; and, in thanking the



THE CAMP AT CHOBHAM.—REPOSE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

company, stated that during the session he had seldom been absent from the House of Commons when a division of importance had taken place. Mr. Lee then referred to his support of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; adding that he (Mr. Lee) hoped next session to see a Reform Bill brought forward which will greatly extend the elective franchise among the people.

The Chairman then read a letter from Mr. Thomas Law Hodges, regretting his absence from the fête, on account of an accident; and this veteran Reformer's health was then drunk with hearty cheers. Mr. W. W. T. Baldwin returned thanks.

The Chairman then proposed "Mrs. Whatman, and the Ladies," amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Whatman returned thanks; and, in conclusion, proposed the

"Health of their respected Chairman, Mr. Ellis;" who thanked the company.

The worthy Chairman then dismissed the assemblage to the entertainments in the Park, where a shout of voices announced the ascent of a balloon from one of the eminences. Two bands were in attendance, in addition to that of M. Jullien; frequent discharges of cannon pealed forth *jeux-de-joie* in honour of the gathering; and the gratification was heightened by the sight of thousands of happy faces, including those of a large number of children. Before dusk, it was estimated that not less than 20,000 persons were present. Towards sunset, the vast assemblage gathered round the entrance to the grounds, where there was a brilliant display of fireworks, preceded by the ascent of a large fire balloon.

"It is satisfactory to state" (says the *South-Eastern Gazette*), "that, large as was the number of persons admitted to partake in this celebration, and embracing as the assemblage did many of the humblest as well as of the most affluent classes of society, the conduct of every person present was marked by propriety and decorum. There was no drunkenness, no brawling, no destruction of property, arising from either wantonness or thoughtlessness. The Park, the shrubberies, and the beautiful gardens adjoining the mansion of Vintners, were unreservedly thrown open to some 20,000 persons; yet not the smallest mischief was perpetrated. The holiday was worthy of the cause whose triumph it commemorated; and those who took part in it proved that they were worthy of all the festivities provided for them."



FÊTE IN VINTERS PARK, TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF MESSRS. WHATMAN AND LEE FOR MAIDSTONE.



CHAPEL AT CARISBROOKE CASTLE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

CHAPEL IN CARISBROOKE CASTLE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THIS picturesque Chapel, which has been very recently denuded of its roof and windows, was erected in 1738, during the Governorship of Lord Lymington, on or near the site of a very ancient church or chapel, dedicated, like most other religious buildings in fortified places, to St. Nicholas. No trace of the original building remains, nor is any view of it extant from which its exact character may be known. It was most probably of Norman architecture, the Chapel having been granted to the Abbot of Quarr in the reign of Henry II. From a MS. in the

British Museum, entitled, "Church Notes in the Isle of Wight," written in 1719, we learn that there were "no monuments or inscriptions in it." This Chapel is accounted to be the parish church of St. Nicholas, a parish formed of several farms in various parts of the island, lying at considerable distances from each other; also of part of the town of Newport, known as Castlehold, which is charged with an annual payment of 13s. 4d. to the Vicar of the Chapel. For a considerable period anterior to 1790, the inhabitants of Newport selected the Castle Chapel as a favourite place for their weddings, passing the nuptial day with their friends within the Castle walls; but, upon the appointment of Lord Bolton, then the Honourable T. Orde, to the Governorship, the practice was discontinued. Unfortunately, the register of these marriages has been lost for many years, and great has been the inconvenience which has arisen in consequence.

The Rev. W. Sewell is now the Chaplain of the Castle; but Divine service has not been performed within the Chapel for many years, and the bare and roofless state of its walls, render it wholly useless for its sacred purposes in future.

Besides the payment from Castlehold, there are the rents of glebe lands to some amount, payable to the Vicar, but which are transferred by him to the Incumbent of the District Church of St. John, in Newport.

DEAL NEW PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

It is gratifying to have to record another instance of those noble efforts which are happily being made throughout the country in the cause of education. The new Parochial Schools of the town of Deal, were opened on Monday, the 18th ultimo. The foundation-stone of the



DEAL NEW PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

building was laid by the rector, on the 2nd of September last; and the Schools are now completed, and in full operation, under the superintendence of a master, mistress, and infant-mistress. There are two residences for the teachers, and each school-room has a play-ground attached. The building presents a handsome appearance in the approach from Sandwich to Deal. It was designed by Mr. Paynter, of Westminster; and its cost (including the site, which amounted to £2300) has been defrayed by grants from the Committee of Council, the National Society, and the Diocesan Board; besides large contributions from private individuals.

The Schools will accommodate about 300 children; and it is hoped that those for whose benefit they were intended, will avail themselves of the privilege of the instruction hereby so generously afforded. On the joyful occasion of the opening, the Boys' School-room was tastefully decorated with flowers, and entirely filled with the clergy and gentry of



ST. PANCRAS ALMSHOUSES, KENTISH-TOWN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the neighbourhood and their families; and also the parents of the children whose names had been enrolled.

The Upper Deal Choir, accompanied by Mr. Harrison on the harmonium, assisted. The meeting commenced by singing the Hundredth Psalm. An appropriate prayer was then offered up, and an anthem sung; after which an address was delivered by the Rector, the Rev. A. H. Duthie. The parents were also addressed by the Rev. M. E. Benson, of St. Andrew's, Deal, and the Rev. John Barton, Rector of Eastchurch, who had the evening before preached a most excellent discourse at the parish church in aid of the funds; the Rev. J. F. Baynam having pleaded the same cause at St. Andrew's in the morning. The several collections amounted to £79 9s.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF MESSRS. KIRKMAN'S PIANOFORTE MANUFACTORY.

WE regret to have to record the almost total destruction by fire, on the morning of Wednesday week, of the extensive pianoforte manufactory of Messrs. Kirkman and Son, situated in Dufour's-place, Broad-street, Golden-square; together with nine houses and a chapel. The firm of Messrs. Kirkman is one of the oldest in the trade, having been originally harpsichord makers, and is coeval with the first introduction of that instrument into this country; and from that time to the present has taken a leading part with other eminent firms in the manufacture and improvement of pianofortes. The works just destroyed had been in the occupation of the firm for upwards of a century. An immense number of pianofortes of every description, finished, or in progress, together with a quantity of rare and costly woods, very difficult to replace, have been totally destroyed; but, what is more to be regretted, is the destruction of some musical relics and curiosities connected with the progress of the art; and a number of models showing the various progressive improvements of the pianoforte from its first invention. Among these was a curious clavicord—once belonging to the great Handel, and from which the idea of making the square pianoforte was originally taken. Here, also, was the harp used by the Court bard of Charles II., the head beautifully carved by Grindling Gibbons; a small japanned harpsichord, by Andreas Ruckers, of Antwerp, made in the year 1634—the sounding-board and

inside of the top beautifully and elaborately painted with flowers and Cupids; and once used by his Majesty George III. Another of the lost relics was the celebrated harpsichord formerly the property of Joah Bates, who for many years conducted the Antient Concerts; together with a large harpsichord, fitted with curious German pedals, made for Mr. Greatorex, who succeeded Mr. Bates as director of the Antient Concerts. Among the manufactured stock saved is Messrs. Kirkman's Miniature Grand Pianoforte (the smallest to be played upon, ever made) which excited such general interest at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

The building in which the fire commenced, formed a four-storied range of workshops, store-rooms, veneer houses, &c.; adjoining which, on one side, were several houses in Dufour's-place; and the baths and wash-houses of St. James's parish were immediately facing the ill-fated property. The houses in Broad-street nearly touched the factory, whilst those in Poland-street extended in the rear. No time was, therefore, lost, in sending for the engines and fire-escapes, but before sufficient time had elapsed for any assistance to arrive, the flames shot forth from the centre of the building, with dense and suffocating smoke.

The engines of the London Fire Brigade, from King-street, Golden-square, Wells-street, Chandos-street, and other stations, arrived on the spot in a very brief period; but such was the inflammable character of the stock in trade, that, by that period three sides of the immense factory presented one immense sheet of flame, which threw up such a lurid glare, that the reflection could be seen so far distant as Harrow-on-the-Hill. Several other engines, including that of the West of England Office, and four or five of the London establishment, also reached the scene of conflagration in rapid succession; bringing with them strong bodies of firemen, and Messrs. Braidwood, the superintendent, Staples, the foreman of the C district, and Connorton, the superintendent of the West of England firemen. Two or three of the Royal Society's fire-escapes also attended very promptly, and, although they were not required for saving life, were of great assistance to the firemen in enabling them to ascend, by which means the men were enabled to protect many of the contiguous houses, by throwing torrents of water upon them.

In the quadrangle of Messrs. Kirkman's premises stood a number of piles of timber, which towered high above the factory and house-tops in Poland-street. A number of the firemen mounted one of the lofty walls, and whilst engaged in discharging water upon the piles of timber, another wall and part of the roof fell, and threw three of the men, to the ground, and at the same time a portion of the debris struck them so violently as to cause the necessity of their removal to their homes. The other firemen, however, went to work with still greater vigour; in spite of which the work of devastation continued; and the wind being rather strong, the flames were drifted into the premises of Mr.



DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF KIRKMAN'S PIANOFORTE MANUFACTORY, DUFOUR'S-PLACE, BROAD-STREET, GOLDEN-SQUARE.

Sibley, silversmith, No. 10, in the same place; and also into those of Mr. Michael Geary, tailor, No. 9, in the same thoroughfare. The fire at that time assumed a most fearful aspect; for three parts of the factory of Messrs. Kirkman, and the other houses in Dufour's-place, were blazing with the greatest impetuosity. The whole force from the engines was therefore brought to bear upon the property then in flames; but suddenly the fire crossed to the eastward, and ignited in succession the premises of Mr. John Cook, builder, No. 60, in Poland-street; those of Mrs. Lewis (private), No. 59, in the same street; and a Baptist Chapel at the rear. From the chapel the fire extended to the workshops and stock of timber behind, belonging to Mr. George Leslie, carpenter, No. 58, in Poland-street. All hands were at this juncture brought to bear upon this property; nevertheless, the flames could not be restrained until the premises of Mr. Arthur Abbott, which were let out to a great number of inhabitants, became ignited; and from thence the work of devastation reached to the premises of Mr. J. Lloyd, tailor, No. 55, in Poland-street.

Hour after hour passed away before the flames could be assuaged; and even as late as eight o'clock at night there remained a considerable body of fire beneath the surface of the ruins, although all danger of any further extension of mischief was over.

An inquiry was made with a view of learning how the disaster commenced, but nothing satisfactory could be gleaned beyond the fact, that the whole of the men left off work at a quarter past eight the previous evening, when everything appeared perfectly safe and free from fire. Messrs. Kirkman are partially insured.

We are happy to learn, for the sake of the numerous hands thus suddenly thrown out of employment, that this sad accident will cause but a temporary interruption to Messrs. Kirkman's business.

ST. PANCRAS ALMSHOUSES.

THREE Alms-houses which have been in part completed for the large and populous parish of St. Pancras, are situated immediately behind the Governesses' Benevolent Asylum, in Grafton-place, Kentish Town; and have a clear southern aspect for the whole length of the houses—about 400 feet. There are to be eighteen houses, besides the centre building, which contains the board-room, secretary's office, &c., as well as apartments for two married couples, who will be entrusted with the general superintendence of the whole. The eighteen houses will consist of six for unmarried females, six for unmarried men, and six for married persons. Each house for the unmarried will contain four persons—the apartments for whom are distinct; each will be fitted up in a complete manner, with living room, bed closet, a properly-ventilated safe, coal closet, and sink constantly supplied with water, as well as provision for taking away all refuse water.

The houses for married persons are each to contain four couples; and except that an additional amount of room is provided, are similar in plan to the houses for the unmarried, and are fitted up in a like manner. The total accommodation will be for 100 inmates.

At the back of the centre building a washhouse and laundry is provided for the use of the whole of the inmates, to be fitted up with coppers, wash-tubs, supplied with hot and cold water, drying closets, and other conveniences. There will also be in this part a bath-room for males, and one for females, to be supplied with hot and cold water.

The portion of the building which has been erected consists of the centre and two houses on each side, containing apartments for twenty-four single persons and two married couples. The houses externally have a picturesque and pleasing appearance, and are in the simple old English style. The walls are of red brick and stone, relieved occasionally by diamond-work in grey bricks. The builders are Messrs. Hopkins and Roberts, of Islington; and the architect, Mr. James K. Colling.

To render candidates eligible for these Alms-houses, the requisites are, that they shall have paid poor-rates in the parish for not less than ten years, shall have borne a good character, never received parochial relief, be upwards of sixty years of age, and in indigent circumstances.

At the first annual meeting of the subscribers and friends to the establishment and endowment of these Alms-houses, the report was read, stating the site to have cost £1000. The contract for the portion built was £2210; increased, by the cost of drainage and other items, to £2500. The entire building, when completed, will cost about £7000, including the price of the land. After paying for the site, not more than £500 remained available; but so deep an interest was felt in the undertaking, that funds were obtained on the personal security of an individual member of the committee, and the contract was signed.

The first annual election of inmates took place on the 14th ult.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ON Monday last, shortly after two o'clock, a most dreadful accident took place in the north end of the great or middle transept of the building. As may be known, it is of great height, the scaffolding or platform used in fixing the beams of the roof being some 170 feet from the ground. It was constructed of wood and iron, and was so arranged as to admit of the workmen pushing it forward as the work proceeded. At the time in question, a number of men were engaged shifting this moveable portion, when the entire mass of machinery gave way, and fell nearly the whole height of the building, with a most tremendous crash. When the scene of the accident was approached, it was found that ten of the men had been killed. Several of the others were discovered to be living, but in such a condition as to scarcely leave a hope for their recovery. One of the directors, Mr. F. Fuller, and Mr. Belshaw, the superintendent of the building, happened to be near the transept at the moment of the accident. Encouraging the terrified hands to render assistance in extricating the wounded men from beneath the wreck of the scaffolding, the sufferers were quickly got out. Mr. Chamberlain, a surgeon of Wolverhampton, was by chance visiting the grounds at the time, and, hearing of the terrible event, at once volunteered his services. Examining the character of their injuries, he directed their immediate removal to one of the London hospitals; and the poor creatures being carried down to the train, they were conveyed to London-bridge, and thence to Guy's Hospital, where every attention was afforded them. Two of them, however, unhappily died soon after their admission to the hospital. On a further search being made beneath the woodwork, two horses were found, quite dead. They were attached to a cart, which was used in conveying material from one part of the building to the other, and the scaffolding falling upon them, killed them on the spot. The driver, however, escaped.

As to the immediate cause of the frame-work and machinery collapsing, which was the occasion of the accident, no positive information can be obtained; but the general belief is that it arose from the enormous span of the arch, and the timber and ironwork being too heavy for the span; so that on being put in motion to receive the third rib, the strain was so heavy as to cause the key to shift, and the whole to collapse and fall, with the unfortunate men employed, to the floor of the building. It is proper to state that the frame-work and machinery were wholly disconnected with the two ribs which have been so securely placed, and not the slightest strain upon them or injury to the building has taken place; and such is the confidence of all employed in the building of that fact, that every workman was at his post at the usual hour on the following morning.

Sir Joseph Paxton and Sir Charles Fox have made very minute inquiries of the heads of the building department, with a view of eliciting anything that might throw a light upon the probable cause; but nothing decisive was arrived at. The galleries and staging had been constructed under the direction of the most skilled mechanics, and who had been similarly employed in forming the transept of the Hyde-park Exhibition. Sir C. Fox remarked that the only opinion he at present could give as to the cause of the melancholy event was, that the workmen had left out some important part in the trusses they put up. The centre transept is intended to be no less than 208 feet in height (108 feet higher than the transept of the Exhibition in Hyde-park), and 100 feet in breadth.

An inquest was opened on Wednesday, on the remains of the ten men who were picked out of the wreck, dead, and were deposited in one of the out-houses of the building. The following are their names:—Wm. Forman, James Waller, George Topham, George Peilding, George Copping, Wm. James, Wm. Middleton, Wm. Smith, John Neale, and Charles Hardy. The names of those dead at Guy's Hospital are Henry Reading and John Harris. Respecting the condition of the injured survivors lying in Guy's Hospital, the report of the medical officer states that, with the exception of the man Perry, all were progressing favourably. The amount of the damage occasioned by the accident is computed at £6000.

SELF-ACTING BOAT-PLUG.—A very simple plug for boats, of a self-acting nature, has been invented by Captain C. G. Robinson, R.N. This plug is wood, of a conical shape, with a broad base, ensuring its perpendicular flotation, entering the boat from the outside, with a pin through the head of the cone to prevent its falling through when hoisted out of the water, at which time the plug falls, enabling the water to escape, if any in the boat, and closing of its own accord on again being lowered, there becoming a perpetual plug, as it never need be removed.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

HENRY RICHARD GREVILLE, EARL BROOKE AND EARL OF WARWICK, K.T.

THIS nobleman, whose correct designation was Earl Brooke, preferred to be known by the title of his second and junior earldom—that of Warwick—a dignity historical from the earliest period of our English annals, and held, at successive periods, by the Newburghs, the Plesssets, the Beauchamps, the renowned Nevills, the illustrious Plantagenets, the Dudleys, and the Liches. There is not, perhaps, in the whole range of the Peerage a coronet with so brilliant a halo around it as that of Warwick. The last of the Beauchamps, in whom it vested, was Henry de Beauchamp, sixth Earl, created in 1441, Premier Earl of England, and advanced to a Dukedom in the same year. His Grace's sister and heir, the Lady Anne Beauchamp, married Richard Nevill, Earl of Salisbury, afterwards Earl of Warwick.

The setter up and plucker down of kings.

The Grevilles derive their descent from the old Earls of Warwick, through the marriage of Sir Fulke Greville with Elizabeth Willoughby, the greatest heiress then in England; whose mother, Elizabeth, was one of the daughters and coheirs of the Lord Beauchamp, of Powyke. The venerable and highly-esteemed Peer, whose death occurred on the 10th instant, after a protracted illness, at Warwick Castle, was born 20th March, 1779, the eldest son of George, 2d Earl (of the house of Greville), by Henrietta, his second wife, daughter of Richard Vernon, Esq. He married, 21st Oct. 1816, Sarah, relict of John George, 6th Lord Monson, and daughter of John, 2nd Earl of Mexborough, by whom (who died 30th Jan., 1851) he has left an only child, George-Guy Lord Brooke, now 4th Earl Brooke and Earl of Warwick, who was born 28th March, 1818, and married 18th Feb. 1852, Anne, eldest daughter of the Earl of Wemyss, by whom he has a son and heir, born in 1853.

By the death of Lord Warwick, and the consequent elevation of his son to the Upper House, a vacancy occurs in the representation of South Warwickshire. The late Earl was a Knight of the Thistle, Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, and Colonel of the county militia. His seat of Warwick Castle is one of the most magnificent feudal residences in the Kingdom. During the last year it has added to its adornments the splendid Kendilworth Bulet, which attracted so much admiration at the Crystal Palace. It was presented to the present Earl upon his marriage, by his county friends, to be preserved as an heir-loom.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PETER HAWKER.

THIS distinguished officer and *litterateur* died on the 7th inst., at Dorset-place, in his 67th year. His ancestors have, without missing one generation, served in the British army since the reign of Elizabeth. His great-grandfather, Colonel Peter Hawker, was appointed Governor of Portsmouth in 1717; and his father, Colonel Peter Ryves Hawker, commanded the 1st Regiment of Horse (now Life) Guards. Colonel Hawker was born in London on December 24, 1786, and received his education at Eton. He entered the army, as Cornet in the 1st Royal Dragoons in 1801, became Lieutenant in 1802, and was reduced to half-pay by the Peace of Amiens. He then exchanged into the 14th Light Dragoons; got his troop in 1804; and with this regiment served in Portugal and Spain, for which he received the Peninsular medal; but, in consequence of his wounds, he was unable to continue on service. On his recovery, in 1815, he was appointed Major of the North Hants Militia; and, in 1821, was made Lieut.-Colonel by the Duke of Wellington. He married, first, in 1811, Julia, only daughter of the late Major Hooker Barttelot, by whom he has a son, Captain Hawker (late 7th Highlanders), and two daughters. In 1844, he married, secondly, Helen, widow of Captain John Symonds, R.N., and daughter of Major Chatterton.

Colonel Hawker was for many years an ingenious contributor to the public press, upon various subjects, more especially upon guns and shooting, of which he evinced sound practical knowledge. He was also the inventor of hand-moulds, to facilitate playing upon keyed instruments—an invention recommended by Clementi, John Cramer, Kalkbrenner, and Moscheles. His octavo volume of "Instructions to Young Sportsmen" has reached a fourth edition. In 1851 he invented a double gun, with self-adjusting primers, the result of 40 years' experience; and the Great Exhibition Jurors awarded to the Colonel the prize medal for his improvements and perfection in punt-guns, upon which occasion the Colonel's portrait was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (No. 526). The late Colonel's family-seat was Longparish-house, Hants, of which county he was a Deputy-Lieutenant.

T. G. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, ESQ.

THOMAS GRIMSTON BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Esq., of Estcourt, in the co. of Gloucester, was the elder son of Thomas Estcourt, Esq., by his wife the Hon. Jane Grimston, eldest daughter of the second Viscount Grimston. He was born the 3rd of August, 1775, and succeeded his father in the representation of the family and the possession of the estates the 2nd December, 1818.

Mr. Thomas Grimston Bucknall Estcourt was a Barrister, a D.C.L. of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and a F.A.S. He was also a Magistrate, and Deputy-Lieutenant for the counties of Gloucester and Wilts. He formerly sat as Chairman of the Wilts Quarter Sessions. He represented in Parliament, from January 1805 to February 1826, the borough of Devizes, and, since that, the University of Oxford. In politics he was a Conservative. Mr. Estcourt married, the 12th May, 1806, Eleanor, second daughter of James Sutton, Esq., of New Park, Wilts, by whom he has had issue, six sons and three daughters. He assumed the name of Bucknall in compliance with the will of his uncle, William Bucknall, Esq., of Oxley, Herts. Mr. Estcourt died at his seat of Estcourt, in Gloucestershire, on the 20th ult. He succeeded in his inheritance by his eldest son, Thomas Henry Sutton Sotherton, Esq., M.P. for North Wilts; who married Lucy Sarah, only child and heiress of Admiral Sotherton, and assumed, in 1839, the arms and surname of Sotherton only.

The family of Estcourt, now Sotherton, possesses considerable landed property and influence in the counties of Gloucester and Wilts.

RICHARD JOHN THOMPSON, ESQ., OF KIRBY-HALL, YORKSHIRE.

THIS venerable gentleman, who died at Kirby-hall, on the 3rd inst., aged eighty-three, was a considerable landed proprietor, and the representative of the Kirby branch of the eminent Yorkshire family of Thompson, from which also spring the Thompsons of Escrick-park, represented by Lord Wincles, and the Thompsons, of Sheriff Hutton-park.

Mr. Thompson, of Kirby, was formerly a Captain in the Fourth Dragoons, and subsequently Major in the Yorkshire Hussar Yeomanry. He married, in 1803, Elizabeth, daughter of John Turton, Esq., of Signall-hall, county Stafford, and had by her three sons and six daughters. Of the former, the eldest, Harry Stephen Thompson, Esq., now of Kirby-hall, is married to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Croft, Bart., of Cowlington-hall, D.C.L., F.R.S., &c., and has four sons and two daughters.

LIBERAL CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The following sums, amounting to £35,000, are left to the under-mentioned institutions by the late J. R. Durrant, Esq., of the Stock Exchange, who died possessed of personal property estimated at £180,000.—To the Ragged School Union, £4000; Samaritan Fund, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, £4000; Artists' General Benevolent Institution, £3000; St. Luke's Lunatic Asylum, £2000; Asylum for Idiots (Poultry), £2000; Stock Exchange Fund for the Relief of Poor Members, £2000; School for the Indigent Blind, St. George's Fields, £2000; Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Old Kent-road, £2000; Infant Orphan Asylum, Clapton, £2000; Strangers' Friend Society, Exeter-hall, £2000; City of London Truss Society, £2000; Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, £2000; Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, £2000; Orphan Working School, Haverstock-hill, £1000; London City Mission, Red Lion-square, £1000.

WILLS.—The will of the late Duchess Dowager of Bedford has been proved by the executors, the Earl of Fortescue, the Hon. and Rev. Lord Wriothersley Russell, the son, and Edward Ellice, Jun., Esq.; the personal estate being sworn upon £80,000. There are numerous specific bequests and family relics: amongst such legatees is Lord John Russell. The pecuniary legacies amount to about £1300, and are chiefly confined to her attendants. The jewels are left to two of her daughters. The estates, with the furniture, pictures, &c., are directed to be sold, and the proceeds divided equally amongst her sons and daughters, who are the residuary legatees. The will was made in 1849.—The will of the Right Hon. Henry Otway Baron Dacre, who died on the 2nd of June last, was proved in London on the 20th of July by the sons, Lord Dacre and the Hon. Henry Bouvier William Brand, the executors. His Lordship had bequeathed all his disposable interest in the estates of the late Lord Hampden to his youngest son Henry, and also appointed him residuary legatee; making bequests to each of his daughters; and to the youngest, who recently embraced the Roman Catholic religion, he has, by a codicil, dated in September, 1851, five months after the execution of his will, made her a provision, by way of an annuity, of £300 a year. The personality was valued at £20,000.

THE NEW ACT, OR SAVINGS BANKS ANNUITIES.—The new act just passed is to grant additional facilities in relation to the purchase of Government Annuities, through the medium of savings banks, and to make other provisions in respect thereof. Some portions of the acts are to be repealed on the 10th of October; and from that day the National Debt Commissioners may receive money from depositors, &c., for the purchase of Government Annuities, on single or joint continuance of two lives, to any amount not less than £4, nor more than £30, for the benefit of any one person, and to receive payment for immediate Life Annuities in one sum, or for Deferred Life Annuities, either in one sum or in annual sums, payable for fixed periods. No such annuities are to be granted to or for the benefit of any person under the age of ten years.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Hon. Frederick Bruce, now *Chargé d'Affaires*, and Consul-General at Uruguay (Monte Video), has been appointed her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt.

Twenty-eight dairy-farmers, of Acton, in Cheshire, keeping 900 cows, have signed a declaration that they do not, in future, intend to make cheese on the Lord's Day.

The Swiss Federal Council has rejected the proposition tending to ask the Sardinian Government to receive into the Piedmontese convents the Capuchins expelled from Ticino.

The British ship *England*, from Tralee, Ireland, with a cargo of salt, and 310 passengers, had been on shore off Nantuckett, but was afterwards got off, and taken into port without loss of life.

A fire broke out on Friday night week, in the village of Asnières, near Bourges, which destroyed 125 houses. All the crops which had been gathered in within the last few days were burnt.

Mr. J. G. Lockhart, the son-in-law and biographer of Sir Walter Scott, and the editor of the *Quarterly Review*, has been compelled by indisposition to cease from all literary labour. He is about to go to Italy.

The yellow fever at New Orleans (July 26th) is represented as worse than ever it has been before, and is confined principally to the poorer classes. There were 190 deaths at the Charity Hospital during one week.

Viscount Strathallan is a candidate for the vacancy in the representation of the Peerage of Scotland caused by the demise of the Earl of Seafield.

The death of Dr. Bankier, the officer in charge of the naval medical establishment at Kong-Kong, is very much regretted. He has been upwards of ten years in China.

The accounts of the fishery received at St. John's, Newfoundland, from the outposts, are very contradictory. Fish that were taken were of very superior quality.

St. George's Hospital has been lately subjected to thorough exterior renovation, and now presents a particularly clean and conspicuous appearance at Hyde Park-corner.

St. John's (New Brunswick) papers, of July 30, state that fires were raging in the woods near Shediac, and had already destroyed much valuable timber.

Very unfavourable accounts of the partridges have been received from Northamptonshire. Numerous pairs of birds are seen without young ones, and it is thought that the rains of July have destroyed whole coveys.

An Arab ship called the *Nassree*, from Jedda to Bombay, with some 400 pilgrims returning from Mecca to various parts of India, was wrecked on the 22nd June. Only 100 succeeded in reaching the shore; the others were all lost.

The contract for the supply of 25,000 lb. of tea, for the use of her Majesty's navy, has again been taken by Messrs. Stericker and Co., of Fenchurch-street.

The differences between the colliers of Kingswood, near Bristol, and their employers, have been amicably arranged. The men have resumed their labours, and all will go on as usual.

Lord Brougham is convalescent at Brougham Hall, where his Lordship intends to remain until early in October, and then depart for his chateau in the south of France.

Some days ago a young boy, near Fethard, having been entrusted with a gun to shoot crows, accidentally shot a servant girl, and became so overcome with grief that he died the same evening.

In Saxony, all persons arriving by railroad with arms of any kind are to deposit them at the first station; to be returned to the owners on quitting the Saxon territory.

The *Harbinger*, which arrived at Melbourne in April, took out despatches from the home Government, empowering the Australian colonies to establish local Parliaments, to consist of an Upper and a Lower Chamber.

A fire broke out at Pouchersans (Jura) on the 10th inst., and destroyed twenty-seven houses. The loss is estimated at 150,000*fr.*

New writs have been ordered for Stamford and Dungarvan, in the room of the Right Hon. J. C. Herries and Mr. Maguire, who have accepted the Chiltern Hundreds; and for Clitheroe, in the room of Mr. Aspinall, whose election was declared void.

The *Marco Polo* clipper beat the *Antelope* steamer on the voyage to Port Phillip, making the run in seventy-five days. The *Kent* had sailed thence, with 26,263 ounces of gold, for London; and the *Itouwa*, from Geelong, with 10,355 ounces. The *Marco Polo* will also bring a large gold freight.

The slight improvement in the health of M. Arago, the French astronomer, has not, unfortunately, continued; a change having taken place for the worse.

The Wesleyan Conference has for some years had to report an annual decrease in their ranks: the numbers of the society have fallen off to the extent of more than 1000 members during the past year.

The Countess Dorloff, lady of the Emperor of Russia's Minister of Police, and suite, have arrived in Paris, from the baths of Dieppe.

A shock of earthquake was felt at Solure, in Switzerland, on the 11th. No person was injured; but some chimneys were thrown down, and several walls were split.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science intends commencing its sittings for the present year at Kingston-upon-Hull, on Wednesday, the 7th of September.

John Dinnes died, lately, at Cirens (N.B.), at the advanced age of 102.

Messrs. de Rothschild, bankers of the General Water Company, have just deposited at the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, 500,000*fr.*, the caution money for the concession for supplying Lyons with water. The same company has made a tender for the supply of L'aris.

In the night of the 2nd the lightning struck a house in the village of Romalo, in the Tyrol, and the fire spread so rapidly that, out of fifty-nine houses which composed the village, only two were saved. Four persons lost their lives.

Her Majesty's steam-vessels now employed in the Mediterranean in conveying the mails between Malta and the Ionian Islands, it is said, are to be withdrawn, and the work performed by a foreign steam company.

It is currently reported that Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., M.P., will be the chief Government officer in the East India Direction, under the provisions of the new bill.

Advices from Odessa of the 5th inst. state that large quantities of corn are being shipped for France and Italy.

The consumption of ardent spirits in Scotland was greater last year than in any previous year.

The *Liverpool Journal* says, that in consequence of the abolition of the soap-duty, there will be a diminution of thirty in the number of inland revenue officers at Liverpool.

The African slave-trade is just living. The *Myrmidon* captured a slave schooner called the *Marie*, in May last, off Banda Point. She was fully equipped for 600 slaves. She was sent to St. Helena.

The *Norfolk News* suggests that every advertiser should forward as a thank-offering to the Anti-Knowledge Tax Society the amount of the by-gone duty upon one advertisement.

General Cubières, concerned in the corrupt transactions which preceded the fall of Louis Philippe, died last week in Paris.

The committee appointed to consider the case of Lieutenant Engledue, dismissed for disobeying orders, and restored by the Derby Admiralty, have reported that they do not consider his restoration a judicious proceeding.

The *Pekin* left Southampton on Wednesday afternoon for Australia, with 230 emigrants on board. The *Epaminondas* will also sail in a few days with about 340 passengers; and the *Herefordshire* is preparing to sail with a large number of navvies.

The Ladies' Anti-Slavery Committee of Oberlin, Ohio, have published a cordial reply to the Stafford-house address to the women of America.

Mr. Francis Whishaw has invented and patented a new lock, applicable for banking purposes, by the employment of electro-magnetism; the lock is opened by breaking a magnetic current.

The *Magdeburg Gazette* says that Hartung, condemned to death, has petitioned the King of Prussia to postpone his sentence until he could finish an opera in hand.

Manchester, with a population of 400,000, has three newspapers; Liverpool, with 367,000, eleven; Glasgow, with 390,000, sixteen; Dublin, with but 200,000, no less than twenty-two.

The Corporation of Montreal has passed a law prohibiting intramural interment in the city, except those of Roman Catholic priests and nuns in Roman Catholic churches.

The new railway to Portsmouth will be a direct one: it commences at Godalming, and ends at Havant. It will require 100 bridges, and 2000 or 3000 workmen will be employed on it for two years.

The inquest on the three unfortunate men run down by the *Madina* steamer at the back of the Isle of Wight, on the 8th inst., has ended in a verdict of "manslaughter" against Captain Corke; but bail has been accepted.

Mrs. Paley, wife of the Rev. R. C. Paley, died at Lagos, on her passage to England, on board the *Raila*. Her husband died at Albermarle, near Lagos, in April: he was the son of Archdeacon Paley.

Literature.

HISTORY OF THE CAPTIVITY OF NAPOLEON AT ST. HELENA. From the Letters and Journals of the late Sir Hudson Lowe, and Official Documents not before made Public. By William Forsyth, M.A., Three Volumes. London: John Murray.

The captivity of Napoleon at St. Helena is one of the most interesting episodes in the history of the nineteenth century. Every generous sentiment, all the finer feelings of our nature, prompt us to sympathise with the fallen conqueror. We measure his misfortunes by the height from which he was precipitated. Every capital of the European continent had received him as victor. By his arms he had dethroned and created monarchs; but it was his destiny to find a prison and a grave on the barren rock which he had specially instructed his admirals to seize in the palmy days of his power. A cynical philosophy has said, "*Expende Annibalem*," and then scornfully asked, "*Quot libras in duce summo, invenies?*" as though the ashes of the dead gave the dimensions of the living. In the order of nature, the death of Kings and serfs is no doubt the same; in the order of politics, the difference is immense: for, though the bodies of both moulder to decay, the spirit of illustrious men survives the tomb, and influences, and sometimes determines, the fate of distant generations. The life of a single individual, pre-eminent among his fellows, as an Alexander or a Cæsar, a Columbus or a Washington, a Hampden or a Watt, expands into the historical panorama of an epoch. Of such colossal proportions was Napoleon Bonaparte, and the magic of his name has placed a sceptre in the hands of his once-called and imprisoned nephew. The story of his triumphs has been recorded in every language; that of his captivity, which is the fitting complement to his wonderful career, has only been narrated with authentic fulness in the volumes now before us. The materials have been collected, as we learn, through the preface, "from a vast number of original despatches of Earl Bathurst, who was Colonial Secretary while Napoleon was at St. Helena, and the originals or copies of every important document connected with the subject. Thirty folio volumes are filled with copies of correspondence and other writings, carefully made under the direction of Sir Hudson Lowe, who seems to have treasured a memorial of almost every incident, however trivial, connected with that important period of his life. In addition to these, there are several large boxes which contain manuscripts, chiefly copies relating to the same events, all of which have been diligently examined for the purpose of the present work. Two sets of copies of O'Meara's letters to Mr. Finlaison, so frequently quoted in the narrative, were placed in my hands; but I wish distinctly to state that I have not seen the originals. One of these sets was made officially at the time when letters were communicated through the Admiralty to the Cabinet, as will be explained in the course of the narrative; and their correctness cannot for a moment be doubted." On so important a subject we have deemed it proper to specify the nature and quality of the materials on which the vindication of Sir Hudson Lowe and of the British Government is founded. Both have been severely condemned by public opinion; but we feel confident that that judgment will be reversed by the labours of Mr. Forsyth. It must always be borne in mind that the Governor of St. Helena was an executive officer, sworn to carry out the instructions transmitted to him by the home authorities; that he did not constitute Napoleon a prisoner, nor prescribe the terms of his treatment during his captivity. In the responsible position in which he was placed, he was of course entrusted with some discretionary power; and unless it can be shown that he abused that discretion, he is not to be blamed for the faithful and inflexible discharge of his general orders. Before we examine the facts of the "Captivity," it is necessary to sketch the military career of Sir Hudson Lowe before Napoleon was committed to his custody; as such an inquiry will enable us to appreciate the motives which induced the British Government to select him for the important office of Governor of St. Helena.

Sir Hudson Lowe was born in the town of Galway, on the 28th July, 1769. At the early age of twelve he was appointed to an Ensigny in the East Devon Militia, and actually passed a review in military uniform at that juvenile period of his life. In 1787 he obtained the King's commission as Ensign in the 50th Regiment, then stationed at Gibraltar. There he performed garrison duty for four years, obtained his Lieutenantcy, and then travelled in France and Italy, where he acquired a proficiency in the languages of those countries. On rejoining his regiment, he accompanied it to Ajaccio, in Corsica, and when that island was evacuated by the British troops, he proceeded to Porto Ferrajo, in Elba; thus visiting the birth-place of Napoleon and the scene of his first exile. His regiment was then ordered to Lisbon, and remained two years in Portugal. A great number of emigrants from Corsica there sought refuge, and Captain Lowe embodied them in a corps called the Corsican Rangers. He received the command, with the temporary rank of Major; and was present at the battle of Alexandria, where he saved the life of Sir Sidney Smith. In the various operations which took place in Egypt, he was so highly distinguished, that General Moore, the future hero of Corunna, said to him, "Lowe, when you're at the outposts, I always feel sure of a good night's rest." Sir Robert Wilson also bore strong testimony to the high merits of the Corsican Rangers and their gallant commander. This regiment was disbanded at the peace of Amiens; and Major Lowe was appointed to the 7th or Royal Fusiliers. He was next sent by Government on a secret mission to Portugal, to report on the military condition and resources of several of its principal districts; and raised a second corps of Corsican Rangers, of which he was appointed Lieut.-Colonel, in 1803. With them he served in Italy and Sicily, and in the expedition under Brigadier General Oswald, which expelled the French from the Ionian Islands; and was made civil and military Governor of Cephalonia and Ithaca, administering their affairs, during two years, with admirable temper, firmness, and judgment. In 1812 he obtained the rank of full Colonel. "I was then," he says, "in my twenty-fourth year of service, and had never been absent a single day from my public duty since the commencement of the war in 1793. I had been in England only once during that time, and then only for a period of six months, during the peace of Amiens."

In 1813 Colonel Lowe was raised to a high position, combining both military and diplomatic duties, by Earl Bathurst, then Secretary of State for the War Department. He was ordered to the North of Europe, to inspect the Russo-German Legion, raised by the authority of the Emperor Alexander, and which it was intended to place under the command of Bernadotte. Colonel Lowe joined the headquarters of the Russian Emperor at Kalisch, in Poland; inspected the corps, scattered over five hundred miles; witnessed the battle of Bautzen; and there, for the first time, saw his future prisoner, at the head of a devoted army. His next service was to inspect 20,000 men in the north of Germany, who were in British pay. This duty performed, he was attached to the allied Russian and Prussian army, commanded by General Blücher, and, with him, was engaged in every action from the battles of Mooker and Leipzig until the surrender of Paris; and he was the first English officer who conveyed that important intelligence to London. The Prince Regent centred upon him the honour of knighthood; he received the Prussian Order of Military Merit, and the Russian Order of St. George, and obtained the rank of Major-General in the British army. But Government allowed him only a short repose: he was soon again called into active service, and appointed Quarter-Master-General to the British troops in the Low Countries, commanded by the Prince of Orange, in which capacity he inspected all the fortresses along the Belgic frontier. In this duty he gave an instance of his foresight. "Among other plans which he proposed, he suggested the construction of a work at Mont St. Jean (close to Waterloo), it being the commanding point at the junction of the two principal *chaussées* leading direct from the French frontier on the side of Charleroi and Namur to Brussels, and the line of direction in which an enemy must move if Belgium were invaded."

On the escape of Napoleon from Elba, Sir Hudson Lowe was placed under the orders of the Duke of Wellington; but left his Grace, in the beginning of June, to take the command of the British troops at Genoa, who were intended to act with the Austro-Sardinian army and the squadron under Admiral Lord Exmouth in the south of France. During this long and arduous career he won the esteem and confidence of Marshal Blücher, Gen. Gneisenau (the chief of Blücher's staff), of the Emperor Alexander, and indeed of all the leading men with whom he came into communication, both British and foreign. Such were the antecedents of the future Governor of St. Helena.

We must now revert back to the circumstances under which Napoleon was received on board the *Bellerophon* by Captain Maitland. The fugitive Emperor affirmed, and always affirmed, that he had never surrendered himself as a prisoner of war; that he was the guest of England claiming hospitality; that he relied on the generosity and honour of the Prince Regent; and that his personal liberty was sacred. The case was without a precedent, and it was in vain to search for any rule of guidance in any of the most accredited works on the Law of Nations. Mr. Forsyth states that Sir William Grant, Sir William Scott, Lord Ellenborough, and Lord Eldon were consulted, and gave conflicting opinions. That of Lord Eldon was, "that the case was not provided for by anything to be

found in Grotius or Vattel; but that the law of self preservation would justify the keeping of Napoleon under restraint in some distant region, where he should be treated with all indulgence compatible with a due regard for the peace of mankind." On this advice the British Government acted, and her allies approved of its determination. Napoleon put on record a solemn protest, but it was disregarded; and from that moment he conceived the bitterest hatred against England, which would have extended to any civil or military functionary selected to superintend his imprisonment. Mr. Forsyth quotes passages from the Journal of Count Las Cases to this effect:—"The details of St. Helena are of little consequence; to be there at all is the essential point." Again: "We had nothing left us but moral weapons; that to make the most effective use of these, it was necessary to reduce to a system our demeanour, our words, our sentiments—even our privations; that a large population in Europe would take a lively interest in our behalf; that the Opposition in England would not fail to attack the Ministry on the violence of their conduct toward us." Count Montholon was even more candid and explicit. He was visited at his chateau of Trémigny, near Arpajon, in France, by Lieut.-Colonel Jackson, after their return to Europe, and said to the British officer: "*Mon cher ami*, an angel from heaven could not have pleased us as governor of St. Helena." This is the true point of view from which the controversy about the governor and the captive must be surveyed.

Sir Hudson Lowe only had five personal interviews with Napoleon. The first was courteous on both sides; at the second Napoleon protested against his deportation in these terms: "The allies have made a convention declaring me their prisoner: what do they mean? They have not authority to do so (*ni en droit ni en fait*). I wish you to write to your Government and acquaint it. I shall protest against it. I gave myself up to England, and to no other power. It is an act of the British Parliament alone which can warrant the proceedings against me. I have been treated in a cruel manner. I misunderstood the character of the English people. I should have surrendered myself to the Emperor of Russia, who was my friend, or to the Emperor of Austria, who was related to me. There is courage in putting a man to death; but it is an act of cowardice to let him languish, and to poison him in so horrid an island and in so detestable a climate." There were three principal regulations imposed. 1st. The necessity of General Bonaparte showing himself twice a day, morning and evening; or giving, by some other means, certain indications of his presence in the house. 2nd. The prohibition of communication with merchants, shopkeepers, and tradesmen, except through the medium of a third person. 3rd. The prevention of any stranger seeing him except with the Governor's previous authority. These precautions were necessary to prevent his escape, and no doubt they chafed him; but to confine him as a prisoner, and treat him as a free man, would have been absurd. Sir Hudson Lowe had invited Napoleon to dinner to meet the Countess of Loudon, who was on her way to England from India. The invitation was refused. Shortly after this the materials for building a new house arrived from London, and Sir Hudson waited on Napoleon to ask how he would wish to have it constructed, when the following scene occurred:—"I cannot understand," said Bonaparte, without making the least reference to the house and the new furniture, "the conduct of your Government towards me. Do they want to kill me? Are you come here to be my executioner—my gaoler? Posterity will judge of the way in which I have been treated; the sufferings I experience will recoil upon your nation. No, sir, I will never allow any one to enter the interior of my house, to penetrate into my bed-chamber, as you have ordered to be done. When I heard of your arrival in this island, I thought that, as an officer of the army, I should find you possessed of polite manners than the Admiral (Sir George Cockburn), who, as a naval officer, might have had a rougher bearing. I have no fault to find with his heart. But how do you treat me? It is an insult to invite me to dinner, and call me General Bonaparte. I am the Emperor Napoleon. Are you come here to be my executioner—my gaoler." Such was the rude and insolent style with which Napoleon treated Sir Hudson Lowe, who bore this coarseness with dignified calmness. Nothing galled Bonaparte so much as the refusal of his Imperial title, and he pretended to believe that this was the personal act of the Governor, whereas he only obeyed his orders, for England had never acknowledged the captive as Emperor, even when he had a million of soldiers at his command. In point of fact, as Sir Walter Scott has well remarked, "If Napoleon at St. Helena was Emperor of France, what was Louis XVIII. at the Tuileries?"

At the fifth and last interview, which took place on the 18th August, 1816, Sir Pulteney Malcolm, who had succeeded Sir George Cockburn as Admiral on the station, was present. Sir Hudson Lowe went to complain to Napoleon of the insolence of Count Bertrand, whoaped the rudeness of his master. For a considerable time Napoleon was silent, then addressing himself to the Admiral, he said, "General Bertrand is a man who has commanded armies, and he treats him as if he were a corporal; he is a man well known throughout Europe, and he (the Governor) had no right to insult him. He did perfectly right in speaking about the prohibition against sending letters, and was justified in engaging in a discussion on that subject. He (Sir Hudson Lowe) treats us all as if we were deserters from the Royal Corsican, or some Italian regiment; he has insulted Marshal Bertrand, and he deserves what the Marshal said to him." Sir Hudson repeated it was Bertrand who had insulted him, and added "I am a subject of a free government. Every kind of despotism and tyranny I hold in abhorrence, and I will repel every accusation of my conduct in this respect as a calumny against him, whom it is impossible to attack with the arms of truth." The insolence of Bonaparte became grosser and grosser, but the samples we have given must suffice in our limited space. He wished to put the Governor into a passion, in the hope that in his excitement he might do or say something discreditable to his position; but Sir Hudson was imperturbable, and the rage of Bonaparte was more fiercely inflamed by this guarded coolness.

Napoleon complained that £8000 a year was insufficient for his table, and the Governor raised it to £12,000. Even this did not suffice; and Napoleon sold some of his plate, pretending he could not get sufficient food. This was notoriously done to excite a false sympathy for an imaginary grievance. He then murmured at the restraint on his walks and rides, though he was allowed four miles in his private domain at Longwood, and out of it twelve miles—in the last case being attended by a British officer. He was furious when an iron railing was put up to prevent cattle trespassing on the plantations, and declared that the object was to shut him up in a cage. In short, his fertile genius was constantly inventing grievances; and when these are traced to their true origin, they all resolve themselves into two facts—first, his captivity; secondly, the refusal of the Imperial title.

We have read Mr. Forsyth's book with minute care, and confess that, when we commenced it, our feeling was, that the justification would not be complete; but we are satisfied that Sir Hudson Lowe discharged his ungracious and highly-responsible office with delicacy, feeling, and honour to his captive. At page 229 of the third volume there is a remarkable and gratifying statement:—"Napoleon, on his death-bed, earnestly begged Count Bertrand to use every means in his power, consistent with his honour, to effect a reconciliation with Sir Hudson Lowe; saying that he hoped he would succeed, as he himself alone had been the cause of the differences between them. This was, at all events, stated by Madame Bertrand to Admiral Lambert; and she added, that her husband was very desirous to fulfil Napoleon's dying wish. When this was made known to the Governor, he instantly determined to bury the past conduct of Bertrand in oblivion, and gladly accepted the proffered reconciliation. Both the French Counts called at Plantation House together on the 12th (May, 1821), and were there courteously received by the Governor."

In these volumes will be found a complete refutation of the slanderous charge of O'Meara, Warden, and Antomarchi; and a clear view of the technical objection raised against Sir Hudson Lowe, when he prosecuted O'Meara in the Court of King's Bench. True, he was neglected by the British Government when his arduous duty was finished, but while it was being performed, he received the special thanks of George IV., and it was nobly vindicated in the House of Lords by the Duke of Wellington. To each of Mr. Forsyth's volumes copious appendices are attached containing copies of all the original documents. He has discharged his difficult labour with diligence and fidelity, and has not only vindicated the fame of a high-minded and cruelly persecuted officer, but has effaced a foul stain which foreign hatred has too long fixed on the honour of the British Government.

LIFE IN SWEDEN; WITH EXCURSIONS IN NORWAY AND DENMARK. By SELINA BUNBURY. Hurst and Blackett.

It is only of late years that these countries have attracted English tourists, and many of them being ardent disciples of Isaac Walton, have been more intent on killing salmon than in studying the habits of the people. Even Mr. Laing's admirable volume does not introduce us to the inner life of the people, and Miss Bunbury has supplied this want. Her sketches of society in Stockholm are minute and graphic, not confined to the higher orders, but including every class. Her book is written

in an easy, gossiping style, when she touches on domestic matters; but when she describes scenery it is more sustained. The church of Copenhagen, called the "Church of our Lady," adorned by the statues and bas-reliefs of Thorwaldsen, is, in the judgment of Miss Bunbury, more like "an elegant museum" than a religious edifice. "The building wants the characteristics of a church; the altar itself strikes me as being more like the place of a throne." Great praise is bestowed on the Gottenburg Canal, though the title is somewhat of a misnomer, for "out of a length of 370 miles, only fifty consist of actual canal, and those in detached portions, partly cut through enormous granite hills, in order to string together, as it were the splendid natural waters, lakes, bays, and rivers, which render this Swedish so called canal unlike any other that I have seen." This canal was formed to escape the falls of the river Gota, at the head of which is the wonderful cataract of Trollhåltan. Hans Andersen, the Dane, considers this cataract more imposing than any of the cascades of Switzerland or Italy. Miss Bunbury says that a German of delicate sentiment fainted, and a still more sensitive Frenchman died, on contemplating this sublime spectacle. The lakes of Western and Malar are then passed, and Stockholm is reached, seated on her seven islands; and our traveller calls it the "Venice of the north." The constitution of the Swedish Parliament is minutely described; and it is a curiosity to an English politician. The University of Upsala is then visited; and at the approach of winter, our authoress establishes herself in Stockholm, taking her board and lodging with a Swedish Countess, who bears no resemblance to the coroneted ladies of our aristocracy, but gets her living by keeping a family hotel. The preparations for winter made by this notable housewife are good illustrations of the domestic life of Sweden, and ingenious are the contrivances for keeping out the cold, and economising fuel. The class of servant-women are described as the best looking and the most graceful in the country. The law of pleasure pervades all classes. Noble old maids abound in Sweden, and divorces are obtained on mutual agreement, but must receive the Royal sanction. The lawyers are as numerous as the nobles, who generally enter the army; though the pay of a Lieutenant in the Royal Guards is said to be less than that of our foot soldiers. Wives take the titles of their husbands. Thus, you address the wife of a clergyman as priestess, and so with all ranks. Vanity and fickleness are faults in the national character. An animated picture is given of the Court of Sweden, and of the etiquette there observed, and of the mode in which Jul-Aften, or Christmas-eve is celebrated throughout the whole country. Literary society scarcely exists at Stockholm, and there is not a single banker—the mercantile house of Arfvedson transacting money affairs for strangers. An old custom, called the Exchange Ball, is fully described; it is an annual festival, given by the burghers or corporation of Stockholm to the King and Royal family. On this occasion everyone has an equal chance of speaking to, and dancing with, Royalty. There is a curious law relating to conflagrations. "Every householder is by law obliged to contribute one person to help in extinguishing a fire in his own quarter; and by the same law, the King of Sweden is bound to act as chief fireman on such occasions—at least, as their commander-in-chief. They say the Crown Prince is exceedingly active on such occasions; and the late King, Carl Johan, though he was subject in his later years to long sedentary fits, during which he would not leave his room, at the news of a fire would feel his warrior-spirit rekindle, mount his horse and gallop to the scene of action, and to the combat with the fire-king." A very lively and humorous sketch is given of a marriage among the middle classes, which Miss Bunbury attended. As soon as the ceremony was over, the bride had to kiss some hundred and fifty persons who were present, her husband receiving the last embrace. After supper, the crown had to be shaken off the head of the bride, which is done in a very romping manner, and so arranged that it may fall on the head of a bridesmaid already betrothed; after which the married men seize the bridegroom, and throw him towards the ceiling, to the great danger of the chandelier. But we must conclude, cordially recommending the fair authoress as a delightful companion to the scenery of Norway and Sweden, and as a most observant and discriminating guide to the manners, customs, and inner life of the people.

FERN LEAVES FROM FANNY'S PORTFOLIO. Illustrated by BIRKET FOSTER. London: Ingram, Cooke, and Co.

This is a book which the author justly characterises as a growth, not as a manufacture. There was no prior intention in her mind of writing a book at all; but what she saw, and thought, and felt, got journalised, until a number of articles were, as it were, self-composed on a great number of subjects. She offers to her readers (to quote her own words) "a few *Fern Leaves* gathered at random in shady spots, where sunbeams seldom play, and which I little thought ever to press for your keeping." There is, in these same "*Fern Leaves*," a charming sensibility, a subtle beauty—what an old poet calls "a fine madness"—which is exquisitely suited to fragments and miscellanies. There is a pious feeling, too, calculated to touch and mend the heart. Of course, there is no elaboration; but a glancing, light tone of observation and reflection, falls on topic after topic, which suggests more—much more—than it expresses. It would be impossible to enter into detail on the multifarious contents of a book of this description—an example of its manner, however, is desirable. The following citation, from a paper entitled "The Test of Love," will give a better notion both of subject and style, than columns of analytical remark. It implies, in addition, an instructive moral suitable to many cases.

THE TEST OF LOVE.

"For charity's sake, take me in!" said the lively little Mrs. Grey, with a look of mock-distress, as she peeped her bright face into my room. "If you'll credit it, my husband hasn't spoken five consecutive words since tea-time; and I'm quite undecided whether to request to have the roof raised, so that I can breathe freer, or to go into a violent fit of hysterics. Matty," said she, with ludicrously solemn air, "I shouldn't be surprised if I had married the wrong man! Now, Edward is one of the best creatures in the world;—there, that's just it," said she, jumping up, "he's too good. I can't think of a fault that he has; he's awfully correct—a living reef to me. Do compassionate me, Matty; I have what the old ladies call 'a model husband.' Now, isn't it a pity that goodness and stupidity generally go together?" said she, laughing. "Ned is so matter-of-fact! Now, if I'm reading a book, and come across a passage that delights me, I always want to put my arms round the author's neck and kiss him. Well, I read it to Ned, and he says, quietly, without looking up from his newspaper—'Yes, it is pretty good.' Oh, dear! he never gets up enthusiasm about any thing. He lacks feeling. It's really pitiable, Matty;—throwing herself on the sofa with a suppressed yawn.

"All is not gold that glitters," Mary; and there are gems, of whose value the possessor is sometimes ignorant. These butterflies, that dazle in society, are mostly mere moths at home. Abroad they are elegant, refined, polished, graceful, full of repartee and wit; but, by their own hearth-stones, silent, moody, selfish, exacting, and uninteresting. You'd never recognise them! You remember Vivian —? Well, that's his mental capriciousness; in private he is the most unlovable of mortals."

"Well, this world is a humbug, then," said Mary, "or I'm one of its restless, dissatisfied ones; and, by the way, Matty, how came you to be an old maid?"

"Simply because you appropriated the only man I ever wanted," was Matty's quiet reply.

The blood rushed to Mary's temples; she was by Matty's side in an instant, urging her to "full confession."

"Ah, I see, my little lady, your heart is in the right place, after all, else you would not be jealous. I have great hopes of you! Blessings often lighten" when we imagine they are "about to take flight!" Your husband never spoke a word of love to me in his life; I only wish that he had! I shall not enjoin secrecy upon you as to my preference, because I know very well you would not have him know it for a kingdom! So I am safe. But seriously, Mary, you don't know how to value Edward. A few more years over your sunny head, and a little more experience of the world, and you would not barter him for the most brilliant idol your imagination ever set up for your heart to worship."

That day was nearer than Matty prophesied. Mary, shortly after, was taken dangerously ill. For weeks she balanced between life and death. Whose supplicating eye sought the physician's with such fearful anxiety? Whose hand, with more than a woman's tenderness, smoothed her pillow, and shaded the light from her aching eyeballs? Who, with uplifted finger, crept softly about the house, hushing every noisy footfall? Who surrounded her with every comfort and luxury that affection could think of, or money—hardly earned—could procure? Who, when wearied with business cares, still kept tireless vigil, till the stars faded away, at the bedside of the poor sufferer? Who grasped the physician's hand, saying, "Save her! It is life or death with me, as well as Mary?" Who but the "matter-of-fact" Edward?

One day, after Mary was convalescent, I called to see her. She was looking very lovely, though pale and wasted. "Thank God you are spared to us!" said I, touching my lips to her forehead.

"After him, thank my husband," said Mary, with eyes liquid with feeling. "In this sick room I have learned a lesson I shall never forget. O Matty! there may be deep, strong love in the heart where deeds, not words, are the interpreters. Please God to spare my life, my poor love shall be his reward for this!" Mary kept her word.

Such sketches as these, so vivid, salient, and sparkling, will ensure for the volume a large reading public. It is beautifully embellished with illustrations by Birket Foster, and forms an elegant book for the drawing-room table or boudoir.



VICE-ADMIRAL DEANS DUNDAS, C.B., COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.

VICE-ADMIRAL DEANS DUNDAS, C.B.

THIS distinguished officer, James Wortley Deans Dundas, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean squadron, was born in 1785, and is son of James Deans, Esq., M.D., of Calcutta, by Janet, daughter of Thomas Dundas, Esq., of Fingask; great grandson of Charles, sixth Earl of Lauderdale; and nephew of Thomas Dundas, a general officer of distinction, who died in 1794. He assumed his present surname on the occasion of his marriage.

Of Admiral Dundas's services we quote the following *précis* in Mr. O'Byrne's "Naval Biographical Dictionary":—

This officer entered the navy 19th March, 1799, as First-class Volunteer, on board the *Kent*, 74, Capt. William Johnstone Hope, bearing the flag, in succession, of Lord Duncan and Sir Richard Bickerton; in which ship he attended the expedition to Holland in August, 1799, and conveyed Sir Ralph Abercromby from Gibraltar to Egypt in December, 1800. He continued to serve as Midshipman, at the blockade of Alexandria, until transferred, in July, 1801, to the *Leda*, 38, Capt. George Hope, with whom he was soon afterwards ordered to Lisbon. In November, 1802, he joined the *Glenmore* frigate, Capt. John Maitland; and, accompanying that officer into the *Boudicca*, 38, was present in a very spirited skirmish with the French 74-gun ship *Duguay Trouin*, also at the capture of *Le Vautour* national lugger, of 12 guns, and at the blockade of Rochefort. Being promoted (from the *Monarch*, 74, flag-ship in the North Sea of Lord Keith) to a Lieutenantcy 25th of May, 1805, in the *Cambrian*, 40, Capt. John Poo Beresford, Mr. Dundas, in the course of the same year, assisted at the capture of three privateers, carrying in the whole 40 guns and 225 men. After officiating for a few weeks as Flag-Lieutenant in the *Leopard*, 50, to the Hon. George Cranfield Berkeley, on the North American station, he was awarded a second promotory commission, dated October 8, 1806. During nearly seven months' command of the *Rosamond*, 18, Captain Dundas was employed in attendance on the British Ambassador to the King of Sweden pending the siege of Stralsund, and was injured by the bursting of a shell while actively endeavouring to extinguish a fire which had broken out in the dockyard at Copenhagen a few nights after the surrender of that town to Lords Cathcart and Gambier. Assuming Post rank, Oct. 13, 1807, Captain Dundas was next appointed—about the same period, to the command, *pro tem.*, of the *Cambrian*, 40—March 9, 1809, to the

Stately, 64, bearing the flag in the Baltic of Rear-Admiral Thomas Bertie—January 31, and September 8, 1812, to the *Venerable*, 74, and *Pyramus*, 36, in the latter of which ships he conveyed Sir James Saumarez from Gottenborg to England, and captured, April 20, 1813, and February 18, 1814, the privateers *Zebra*, of ten guns and thirty-eight men, and *Ville de l'Orient*, of fourteen guns and ninety-seven men—August 16, 1815, to the *Tagus*, 38, on the Mediterranean station, whence he returned in January, 1819—August 6, 1830, to the *Prince Regent*, 120, flag-ship, of Rear-Admiral William Parker, with whom he served in the *Tagus* until the early part of 1832—and, April 5, 1836, to the *Britannia*, 120, bearing the flag of Sir Phillip Durham, at Portsmouth, where he continued until April 7, 1838.

Admiral Dundas's promotion to Flag rank, dates from November 23, 1841. He is a Deputy-Lieutenant for Berkshire, and sat in the last Parliament for Greenwich; was appointed Naval Aide-de-Camp to William IV. in 1831; a C.B. in 1839; a Lord of the Admiralty, under the Whig Administration, in 1841; and resumed his seat at the Board as one of the Naval Lords in 1846.

He married, 2nd April, 1808, his first-cousin Janet, only daughter and heiress of the late Charles Dundas, Lord Amesbury, by Ann, daughter and sole heir of Ralph Witley, Esq., of Aston Hall, county Flint. By that lady, who died 20th April, 1846, he had issue, with three daughters, two sons, of whom the eldest, Charles, an officer in the Coldstream Guards, was M.P. for the Flint district in 1838.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.—The *Singapore Free Press* of the 2nd of July says:—"By late arrivals from Sarawak, we learn that Sir James Brooke was taken ill on board the *Weraff*, while on his passage from this place to Sarawak. On his arrival at Sarawak it was found to be smallpox, and for some time very great fears were entertained for his safety, as he appeared to be in a dangerous state, and no medical aid, except that of a native doctor, was available. The latest accounts, however, represent the crisis of the disorder as being apparently past, and it was hoped that he would soon be convalescent."

IMPROVEMENT OF RAILWAYS.—The Crystal Palace Railway from New-Cross to the

Exhibition is to be constructed in accordance with the plans of the Permanent Way Company, which, amongst other improvements, consists in making the rails into a continuous bar, called fish-jointing. This method is not altogether new, it having been adopted for some while upon the Eastern Counties line, where the results were singularly convincing and economical, as shown by the various half-yearly reports of the cost of maintenance, nearly fifty per cent of the labour being spared; and the entire absence of accidents testifying to its more vital principle of safety. To read or converse in a railway-carriage was formerly a matter of difficulty, but by this system neither is any longer a task. This fact is exemplified upon the Brighton line where a little below Croydon, and before reaching the Merstham Tunnel, there is about a mile of the new line laid. We are no sooner on it than the change is most perceptible; exchanging an oscillating motion and clicking noise for a smooth road and a monotonous sound of much less intensity, so that both conversation and reading may be indulged in with comparative ease. The invention which has wrought this comfort and security is a patent belonging to a few engineers, of great practical experience, who have enrolled themselves in an association termed the Permanent Way Company, with the view of rendering the use of this and other patents belonging to them more accessible to the public.

THE PREVENTION OF FORGERY.—Mr. T. H. Saunders, of the Darent paper mills, Kent, has succeeded in manufacturing a paper which has long been sought for by the banking and mercantile interests. The old "water mark" has afforded the hint upon which the improvement has been made. But as in the water-mark the device was wholly hidden unless held to the light, in the new process the device is

distinctly perceptible under any circumstances. Scroll work and arabesque ornament appears in comparison but a humble portion of the results attainable; the specimens completed comprising elaborate and successful tableaux in landscape, composition, and even portraiture. Although the discovery has been made public but a few days it has entered largely into a variety of channels, for the better security of paper documents as well as for decorative and fancy purposes.

FISHING HOUSES ON THE BOSPHORUS.

THE crystal clearness of the waters of the Bosphorus is evidenced by the rude and simple apparatus of the Turkish fishermen, of which we present our readers with a Sketch. A few poles are driven into the beds of the stream, upon which a hut of the rudest description is constructed. Nets are stretched across the banks of the stream, and such is the transparency of the water, that the fishermen from their huts can see the fish in their nets, and haul them up without any further trouble. By this simple contrivance large captures of the finny tribe are made; the fishermen with true Eastern gravity smoking their pipes in the huts above while the nets are filling. The fish, when taken, are immediately sent off for the supply of the Faithful at Constantinople.

MOLDO-WALLACHIAN PEASANTRY.

THE accompanying Illustration portrays the costumes of the Moldo-Wallachian peasantry of the better classes. We are indebted to M. Demidoff's "Travels in Southern Russia," for the following account of the Wallachian husbandmen:—

The very appearance of the Wallachian peasant interests one in his favour; nor is this prepossession ill-founded, when we reflect on the long series of misfortunes which have afflicted this pastoral people for so many centuries. There is much to be done for the improvement of the manners of this robust race of peasants, who seem to have been expressly created for the labours of the field. Like Virgil's husbandmen, they would be happy did they but know the benefits which Heaven has showered upon this beautiful Roman land, the object of their pride, but which can continue noble and truly Roman only on condition of being rendered fertile and productive. *Magna parens frugum.* The Danube only awaits the grain of the Wallachian plains to pour fresh stores into the granaries of the Black Sea, and the Wallachians would produce much, and cheaply



FISHING-HOUSES ON THE BOSPHORUS.

could they rid themselves of their habits of idleness and intemperance, and their love of holidays, too frequent in the religious observances of the rustic population. To eradicate these deplorable habits is the noblest task which an enlightened Government can propose to itself.

In Wallachia wells are numerous, and are invariably constructed in the manner represented in our Engraving. The trunk of a tree, hollowed out, lines the interior of the well, and prevents the outward walls from falling in. The great numbers and vast dimensions of the natural cylinders converted to this purpose afford an idea of the magnificence of the vegetation in the mountains whence they are brought. The water is brought up by means of a long lever, and the bucket employed is a block of oak scooped out. The ordinary food of the people consists of porridge made of the meal of Indian wheat or millet—a sort of potenta: meat or salt fish are almost unknown to them. Their principal spirituous beverage is a brandy distilled from plums:—

The Moldavians are robust, temperate, hard-working, and inured to the most opposite extremes of temperature. Their features differ from those of the Wallachian people: their countenances are less open; and



MOLDO-WALLACHIAN PEASANTRY

the habit they have preserved, of wearing their beards and hair long, gives an almost savage expression to their physiognomy, to such a degree, that at a distance they might be taken for those primitive statues of the Sarracens to be seen in museums of antiquity, or the statues of Rome over the barbarian. Among the Wallachians, on the contrary, we meet with a larger development of stature, and a greater amount of beauty.

The Wallachian tongue is that spoken by the people; the Boyards have for a long time past made use of the modern Greek, which was introduced by the Hospodars from Constantinople, and formed the language of the court. At the present day the French language is very generally studied, and it would be difficult to find a family of any distinction in which both French and Italian were not spoken.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Permit us, dear readers, a word more respecting *la question d'Orient*, and we have done. We give the following anecdote as a fresh instance of the extreme reserve of Louis Napoleon, and his jealousy of all participation in any secrets, so long as he chooses to keep them such. On the arrival, at St. Cloud, of the despatch which announced what many are fain to consider the conclusion of the affair, the *Chef de l'Etat* glanced over the contents with an air of tranquillity amounting almost to indifference, and, putting it in his pocket, forbade the bearer to speak of his mission in any way to any person. Not a word of the subject transpired the whole of that day. Lord Cowley departed in the evening for Chantilly. A certain journalist, supposed to be one of those best informed on all that passes at the palace, prepared a most belligerent article for publication. The Bourse was still in the state of alarm which for some months has been its normal condition, when the appearance in the *Moniteur* of the despatch in question announced at once to the Ministers of State and the passers in the street the intelligence that has so rejoiced the Bourse of Paris.

So carefully is this habit of discretion preserved by Louis Napoleon, that all intelligence, of whatever nature or importance, is confined within the closest possible limits, from even his own *entourage*, who are no better informed as to his plans or intentions, so long as he chooses not to make them public, than those the furthest removed from him.

The long-talked-of Fête, whatever remarks its inutility and its prodigious cost may reasonably give rise to, has been unquestionably as magnificent a spectacle, or rather series of spectacles, as could well be imagined. The weather, which threatened in the morning, gradually cleared as the day advanced, and concluded with a fine evening, so calm, that not a lamp flickered in all the acres of illumination—which for taste and splendour exceeded any we have ever seen, here or elsewhere.

The day fêtes, of which we gave last week the programme, were all more or less successful. Those at the Champ de Mars were remarkably animated and effective, and passed off with great éclat; but the illuminations were decidedly the triumph of the occasion. The whole length of the Champs Elysées and the square of the Place de la Concorde, extended open arcades of trellis work, of the most graceful forms and decorations, traced out with white, red, and green lamps—the effect of which was novel, light, and brilliant beyond description. No ill-constructed statues, no plaster and calico fountains (falling to pieces ere completed) no decorations of half-withered flowers, this year, gave that unfinished, tawdry, shabby-finey look that on some former occasions—last season especially—marred the whole, and rendered the general aspect of the fête more like May-day sweep rejoicings than anything else. All was complete, brilliant, effective, and with an air of elegance and architectural grace; unmingled with the pretension of aiming at more than the word illumination conveys; but carrying out that meaning to the fullest and most gorgeous effect.

At the *rend-point* of the Champs Elysées, the gigantic eagle, with the thunderbolt, was admirably executed. In short, we saw not a point to criticise, either in the details or the *tout ensemble*. Of the fireworks, we cannot speak much from personal observation; the wind, which was south-west, unfortunately, sweeping such clouds of smoke from the Place des Invalides, where the principal discharge took place, in the direction of the spectators assembled on the *quais*, the Place de la Concorde, &c., that the effect was nearly obscured.

A number of great Russian families are here at present; among others, that of the Prince Menschikoff. The Prince himself is expected to arrive in Paris at the end of August, to remain some months.

The labours in the Bois de Boulogne are progressing with the utmost activity. Some days since, the Emperor proceeded to visit them on horseback; and having, with the superintendent of the works, examined them in detail, left with him a sum of 2000 francs to be divided among the workmen employed on them.

The new decorations of the Grand Opéra—the solid simplicity of which, would, it was supposed, produce an *ensemble* at once rich, novel, and sober—have, it appears, so signally failed in effect, when lighted, as to cause the reclosing of the house until the whole shall be done over again. The Minister of State, accompanied by numerous high functionaries, several members of the Academy of Beaux-Arts, &c., having visited the theatre, which was lighted to the fullest extent, and arranged as for a representation, came to the conclusion that the general effect was much too simple for a theatre especially devoted to parade and splendour; that the wood-work, of a greenish-white, was not sufficiently relieved by the mixture of gold and silver employed to decorate it; that the change made in enlarging the boxes by the suppression of the gallery in front of them impaired the shape of the house; and that, in short, the whole, with the exception of the ceiling, which was universally approved, was an *affaire manquée*, and must be recommenced from beginning to end. At the Vaudeville, the *débuts* of Flexmore, our compatriot, with his wife, the daughter of the admirable clown Ariol, assembled many spectators. The extraordinary grace, agility, originality, and indefatigable force displayed by Flexmore, excite at once the wonder and the admiration of the audience, to whom such a performance has been hitherto quite unknown. At the Cirque de l'Impératrice, an American rider, McCullum, has had considerable success. He certainly performs some very remarkable feats, and with great agility and grace; but the fatigue consequent on the effort is so evident as to cause a painful sensation to the spectators.

A grand review of the troops in Paris, by the Emperor, took place on Sunday. The weather was magnificent, and the various corps vied with one another in enthusiasm. The National Guards and troops of the line occupied the whole avenue from the Port Maillot in the Bois de Boulogne to the Tuileries. It is supposed that there were 120,000 men under arms, including the greater part of the army of Satory. An immense crowd was assembled in the Champs Elysées. After the review, the Emperor and Empress appeared at the balcony of the Tuileries, where they remained for some time. They were well received, but without any demonstrations of enthusiasm.

On Monday the Emperor received at the Tuileries the clergy of Paris, the Diplomatic Corps, the Ministers and high dignitaries of the State, and the veterans of the Imperial army. When receiving the diplomatic corps, the Emperor said to the British Ambassador, "I thank the diplomatic corps for their congratulations. What delights me most is to see the peace of Europe firmly established—for such at least do I consider it—without any sacrifice of dignity or self-love on the part of any nation." This remark of the Emperor was published next morning in the *Moniteur*, and made a favourable impression upon the Bourse. The official organ also announced to its readers that at the diplomatic dinner, given on Monday evening by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the health of the Emperor of the French was proposed by the British

Ambassador, and that the toast was enthusiastically received by the guests.

The fêtes and illuminations, which are described elsewhere, went off with the greatest success, and at midnight it was ascertained from all quarters that the day had passed without a single accident. The shopkeepers and hotel-keepers of Paris have gained considerably by the influx of foreigners, particularly English, to witness the preparations, and assist at the national fête. It is calculated that 150,000 strangers arrived in Paris with this view.

The *Moniteur* publishes the report of the commission charged to examine the question relative to the execution of the will of the Emperor Napoleon I. The commission declares that the greater portion of the will is not practicable, owing principally to the vast amount of the bequests, but that a few specific legacies ought to be paid.

The instructions of the President of the United States to his representatives at the different foreign Courts that they should for the future appear on all occasions of public ceremony in plain clothes, and not in official costume, were carried into execution for the first time. Mr. Sanford, the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, appeared at the soirée of the Emperor, as also at the dinner given previously by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the plain dress of an American citizen. The Emperor and Empress were to leave Paris on Thursday for Dieppe.

The Bourse opened freely on Wednesday, with every appearance of a further rise in the price of public securities. The announcement of a decline in the price of Consols in London produced a reaction, and the Three per Cents, which opened at 81f. 15c., fell to 80f. 90c., at which they closed for the end of the month. The Four-and-a-Half per Cents closed at 104f. 50c.

GERMANY.

We hear from Vienna that the official journal of the 17th contains an Imperial decree, taking off the state of siege at Vienna and Prague.

The marriage of the Archduchess Marie with the Duke of Brabant, heir-apparent to the Crown of Belgium, took place at Vienna on the 11th inst. The marriage ceremony was performed by the newly-appointed Archbishop of Vienna. The wedding-gift of the Emperor was a diadem in brilliants, which her Imperial Highness wore at the ceremony. The youthful bride left Vienna on the 13th. Prince Adolphus Schwarzenburg, who was present as Austrian Ambassador-Extraordinary at the marriage of Queen Victoria, accompanied the Duchess of Brabant to Brussels, as Imperial Commissioner, and the Countess Clam-Martinitz as first Lady of the Bedchamber.

SWITZERLAND.

A letter from Berne, of the 15th inst., states that the Government of Tessin having declared that it would not make any concessions to Austria, the Federal Council does not intend to assume the initiative in renewing negotiations with the Austrian Government.

THE TURKISH QUESTION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, August 5.

We are still in uncertainty here as to the result of the new proposition which has been made to the Court of Russia by the four powers, for the amicable adjustment of the grave question which has now been so long at issue. It is believed, in the quarters usually best informed, that this proposition is so framed as to meet all the just pretensions of the Czar in regard to the guaranteeing of the rights of Christian subjects, his own amongst the number; and therefore, to test the sincerity of his oft-repeated assertion that he has taken up this quarrel simply on the ground of what is necessarily due to his co-religionists, and not with any view to political aggrandisement. I must add, however, that the majority of opinions here are very far from sanguine of a favourable reception of this proposition; and, in the case of its rejection, it is presumed, unless some new pretence for further delay should occur, that immediate recourse will be had to less gentle methods of persuasion than those hitherto adopted—and, as I think, too long persevered in. As it is, supposing the reply—whatever it may be—to come in the course of ten days or a fortnight, there would be no time to lose. In October the winter season begins to set in; after which, as Russia is aware, military operations are out of the question.

Meantime, the Turkish armaments are carried on with alacrity, and upon a scale commensurate with the occasion, and those who have the direction of them, and have had an opportunity of judging of their details, speak highly of the condition and discipline of the troops, and of the dispositions of their commanders. There is a strong camp at Schumla; and the Balkan passes are said to be in a thorough state of defence. The munitions of war and provisions are ample.

The Turkish fleet is still in the Bosphorus, opposite Bouyouk-déré and Therapia, where they are continually exercising in the handling of guns. The guns in the forts and earthworks along the mountain range are also well served. The other day I was present when a protracted cannonading was kept up from both land and sea; the firing being well sustained, and with precision as to time, to the end.

Great enthusiasm is said to prevail throughout the armaments, both sea and land; and some impatience begins to betray itself amongst the Mussulman population generally, at the delay which has occurred in the settlement of this unhappy affair, and which they doubtless consider themselves quite capable of settling if left to their own resources. Indeed, many do not hesitate to declare that the negotiations are all a trick; and that it is a foregone conclusion with the Christians—English, French, Austrians, Greeks, Armenians, and all, that they (the poor Turks) are to be "done." The discontented occasionally wreak their spite upon the infidels by stoning and spitting at them; and sometimes beating them with sticks, and otherwise maltreating them. In justice to the Government it must be added that whenever such outrages come to their knowledge, the offenders are severely punished. Some fellows, who only a day or two ago maltreated an Armenian shopkeeper, have been sentenced to exile.

An Imperial manifesto has just been issued and read in all the mosques, informing the nation of the state of affairs with Russia, and the preparations made to resist her unjust pretensions; exhorting the people, but more especially the Mussulman portion, to continue attending quietly to their own affairs as usual, conducting themselves in a peaceable and friendly manner towards their fellow-subjects of all creeds. (A copy of this proclamation will be found elsewhere.)

Intelligence has been received of the sailing of the Egyptian squadron, consisting of three ships of 96 guns, and several smaller vessels, bringing over the first contingent of about 7000 men. Their arrival is daily expected, and a camp has been prepared for them on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, opposite Therapia—the very spot where, in March, 1833, a body of Russian troops were encamped, who were sent over to assist the Porte against the revolted Egyptians.

It is now declared that the Sultan will not allow his Ambassador to leave Constantinople until the Russian troops shall have been ordered to evacuate the Principalities of the Danube. This is probable enough, and it is yet to be seen whether the English and French Ambassadors will be instructed to support the Porte in this not unreasonable decision, or whether they will be successful in endeavouring to persuade the Sultan to adopt a more conciliatory course.

A proclamation has been lately issued, of which we subjoin a translation from the Turkish original. A perusal of this proclamation will show the difficulty under which the Sultan labours—of resisting the aggression of Russia, without kindling the fanaticism of the Turks against his Christian subjects.

PROCLAMATION.

The present proclamation showeth the state of affairs at Constantinople; and it is his Majesty's wish that it should be promulgated in the provinces of the Empire:—

The Sublime Porte and Russia having disagreed on certain points, the latter has suspended her relations, and recalled her Embassy from Constantinople; and, moreover, has made great military preparations by sea and land; consequently, the Sublime Porte also has prepared herself for war, as has been already made known. The reason assigned by Russia

for her dissatisfaction is the refusal of the Porte to accord by treaty certain religious privileges to the Greek Church. But these privileges were granted by his Majesty Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror, and observed during the reigns of the late Sultans, and were also confirmed by his present Majesty the Sultan of all benevolence, as well as by his predecessors. When his present Majesty and his Government of their own free will granted and confirmed these ancient immunities, who ever thought that they would be annulled? When a Government wishes to undertake the Protectorate of several millions of a neighbouring empire, it menaces its independence and interferes with its domestic affairs. The impropriety of such an act has been declared, but Russia would not forego her claim, and has even occupied Wallachia and Moldavia, crossing the Pruth with her troops, thus greatly annoying the Sublime Porte. Such a violation of treaties has called forth, on the part of the Sublime Porte, a protest, which has been communicated to the different European powers, in which it is declared that such an act, contrary to treaty, will not be accepted by the Sublime Porte. When a question of such grave importance arises, affecting the independence of the empire, it ought to be arranged by negotiations and friendly mediation. It is not Russia's intention to make war on the Sublime Porte, but she has occupied the provinces as a guarantee until her demands are complied with. The Porte has received from the different European Powers friendly advice, especially from the maritime nations of England and France, upon whose friendship and good faith the Porte can rely, and it is certain that she will not accept anything that will affect her integrity and independence. Until it is seen what turn affairs will take, it has been deemed advisable to assume the defensive on the banks of the Danube and the frontiers of Anatolia.

Such is the dispute and the present state of affairs as regards Russia. On the part of the Government, troops and the munitions of war have been prepared. The Sublime Porte has tranquillized all her subjects, and has enjoined them to remain quiet in their several occupations of agriculture and commerce, and she requires of her subjects to obey all her commands. As has been already mentioned, the claims of Russia relate to the religious privileges of the Greeks. The Greek sect and their chiefs have personally nothing to do with this affair, but have, on the contrary, expressed their gratitude and thanks to their Government, and are sorry that such a question has ever been mooted; they must not, therefore, be locked upon as enemies. Armenians, Catholics, Protestants, and Jews are also the true and faithful subjects of our Lord and Padishah; the Greeks are so also; and they must therefore live in peace with each other.

In short, Moslems and all other subjects of the Porte must dwell together in harmony, and not speak of things which do not concern them, nor do that which is not lawful, but each must look to his own affairs.

This present arrangement, a proclamation, and order (*ferman*) has been prepared in the presence of the Sheikh-ul-Islam and all the learned of the Empire, of the Seraskier, and all the officers of the army and viziers who are at the Council of the Grand Vizier. Finally, this proclamation has been sanctioned by his Majesty the Sultan; and all those who are not pleased with the arrangement, and shall act contrary to it, shall be considered insubordinate, and shall be severely punished.

Here follow the signatures of all the principal officials of the Empire, civil, military, and religious.

Four important documents connected with the Eastern Question have been published:—1. The letter of the Prince of Moldavia to Redschid Pacha, June 25, informing him that the Russian Consul-General at Bucharest had summoned him in the name of the Emperor to suspend his relations with the Porte, and withhold any further payments of the tribute. 2. The letter of the Consul-General above mentioned, dated June 23rd. 3. The despatch from Count Nesselrode to the Consul-General Katchinski, ordering the above measure, June 3rd. And 4. Letter from Redschid Pacha to Stirbey, Prince of Wallachia, July 25th. The two latter still have some interest, particularly the former of the two, as it will serve as a preliminary answer to Lord Clarendon's demand for explanations:—

COUNT NESSELRODE TO THE CONSUL-GENERAL KATCHINSKI.

St. Petersburg, June 3.

The military occupation of the Principalities is, as I have already informed you, to cause no change in the existing order of things as regards the civil administration and the *personnel* of the superior officers, unless the Hospodars themselves should consider the change of some *employés* necessary to the introduction of the greatest possible regularity in the various branches of the service, and particularly in that of providing for the Imperial troops. There is still one question, however, on which we must make our views known beforehand to the two Princes, so that they may guide themselves accordingly. We have to speak of their relations to Constantinople and the Ottoman Ministry. These relations must necessarily be broken off on the day the military occupation of the land on the part of our troops commences; and, at the same time every action, every influence, on the part of the Sovereign power must for a time cease. Another consequence of the state of things will be the stopping of the tribute which these provinces are bound to pay the Porte. The sums which (the same as hitherto) have to be paid, must remain at the disposal of the Imperial Government, which reserves to itself to make what use of them it thinks proper.

You will communicate to the Hospodars the contents of this, which I have the Emperor's commands to inform you of.

REDSCHID PACHA TO STIRBEY, PRINCE OF WALLACHIA.

Constantinople, July 25.

Prince! When Russia advanced her troops into the Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, she declared that she had no intention of changing the public arrangements which govern those provinces, or to alter the position which is guaranteed to them by solemn treaties; and the Sublime Porte, which trusted this declaration, thought it might leave your Highness, as well as his Highness the Prince of Moldavia, at your respective posts. We learn, however, from the letter which has been sent us by the Prince of Moldavia, that the Russian Court has issued an order that you, as well as the Prince of Moldavia, shall break off your relations with Constantinople, and keep back the settled tribute. This has surprised us excessively.

As the Russian Court has attacked the system of provinces in the point which immediately affects the power possessed of Sovereignty in them—in a word, in its very foundations—the Sublime Porte sees clearly, that in this state of things the exercise of rightful authority, in a manner due to its holy and uncontested rights, is impossible in the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia. The Sublime Porte has, therefore, determined that your Highness, as well as his Highness the Prince of Moldavia, shall for the present quit the provinces, and this order has also been officially communicated to the great powers. You must, therefore, as is due to commands issuing from the Imperial throne, quit the provinces immediately; and should it happen that you act contrary to these orders, the Sublime Porte will adopt such measures as shall appear suitable and conducive to its interests on the occasion.

I gladly embrace this opportunity, &c.

A letter from Constantinople of the 5th inst., in the *Times*, informs us that rumours had reached that city of the acceptance by the Court of St. Petersburg of the terms proposed by the Conference of Vienna, although no official confirmation of the tenor of the Vienna note had reached the Turkish capital. The letter in question contains the following important and significant passage:—

The Turks now declare that they will refuse their adherence to those terms, and begin to talk of their demands, among which the immediate and unconditional evacuation of the Provinces stands foremost. The enthusiasm of the people renders the contemplation of a sudden and peaceful termination of the question a difficulty with the Ministers of the Sultan, who fear internal disturbances perhaps more even than a Russian war. The war party, which is daily gaining strength, remembers that in 1828, Turkey, with her raw, undisciplined levies, beat back the first invading army of Russia; and, although in the ensuing spring, she was worsted by an immense army of Russian veterans, headed by the Emperor himself, to which she could oppose but the germ of a regular force, unsupported by those contingents on whom she depended for aid, but who betrayed her, yet the Turks are consoled by the recollection of the overwhelming disparity of forces at that time. In 1829 the Turkish artillery amounted to 30 field pieces; in 1853 the number of field pieces in the camp at Schumla alone amounts to 280. In 1829 the whole force of so-called disciplined troops amounted to about 25,000 men, who had not been under arms many months; at this time there are 80,000 regulars and 30,000 irregulars concentrated in Schumla. The Egyptian soldiers are arriving; and as the preparations continue, and become daily more formidable, the alternative is presented to a people not unmindful of their earlier military history, either to disband their army, brought together at an enormous outlay of treasure, and thus prepare themselves for future encroachments and internal disorders, or by a bolder policy take the chance of inflicting a blow on their insolent aggressor, and recovering some part of their ancient prestige.

A letter from Jassy states that the Emperor of Russia has left it free to the Hospodars of Moldavia and Wallachia to obey the summons of the Sultan, or to remain in the Principalities. It was supposed that the Hospodar of Moldavia would proceed to Constantinople; but, according to a letter from Bucharest of the 9th inst., the Divan of Wallachia had requested the Hospodar not to leave the Principality at a time when his presence there was so much required.

Prince Gortschakoff, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in the Principalities, arrived at Bucharest on the 30th ult., and had a conversation with the Greek Bishops on the subject of the three protectorates of the Holy Sepulchre. The Prince treated them with even greater kindness than he had shown the Hospodar.

The French and English fleets remain at Besika Bay. The French ship-of-the-line *Friedland*, which, on the 28th of July, struck on the rocks near the Lapiu isles (to the north of Tenedos), was got off with extreme difficulty by five war-ships, her guns and masts having been previously removed. She will be taken for repair to the dock at Con-

stantinople. The communication between the Turkish capital and Besika Bay, by means of the English war steamers, is very frequent.

The Protestants and Armenian Catholics, in imitation of the other religious communities, have sent in an address to the Grand Vizier, in which they express their gratitude for the religious liberty which has been accorded them by the Sultan.

AMERICA.

By the *Atlantic* we have advice from New York to the 6th inst. Among her passengers are the Hon. James Buchanan, Minister to the Court of St. James's, and the Hon. P. Soule, Minister to Spain. There is no political intelligence of consequence. The yellow fever has made dreadful ravages in New Orleans.

A body of United States' military had been ordered to Rio Grande. This movement is said to have been caused by the proceedings of the Mexicans.

O'Donohue, the Irish convict, who recently escaped from Australia, had been held to bail at Boston, for challenging the chairman of a festival held in honour of Meagher. O'Donohue alleges that the chairman silenced him in the middle of a speech by ordering the gas to be extinguished. At the festival a letter was read from the Hon. E. Everett, apologising for his inability to attend.

Advices from Mexico state that the ravages of the Indians still continued in the States of Durango and Zacatecas, and the lands were being rapidly deserted.

THE RIVER PLATE.

The latest arrivals from South America announce that an unexpected and important change has taken place in the interminable hostilities on the River Plate. It will be remembered that under the administration of Rosas, the late Governor of the province of Buenos Ayres, and real head of the Argentine Confederation, Monte Video was invested for upwards of nine years by the forces of Oribe, assisted by Argentine troops; and it was not until after the intervention and mediation of the maritime powers of Europe had been repeatedly tried in vain, that a combination of the states north of the Plate with the Brazilian Government raised the siege of Monte Video, and restored the Banda Oriental to independence. But the liberating army under General Urquiza did not stop at this result. The State of Entrerios, and the military adventurers who pass their lives in this irregular and indefinite warfare, thought that the time was come to throw off the ascendancy of the province of Buenos Ayres and its sanguinary chief, Rosas. They crossed the rivers below Santa Fé and invaded the territory of Buenos Ayres. The army of Rosas was easily routed, and the Dictator, with his daughter, Manuelita, sought a refuge in disguise in a British vessel. It was then to be seen whether a more liberal and tolerant Government could be established in the Argentine Confederation, recognising the independence of each State for its own internal government, and intrusting the foreign interests of the nation to a Federal authority. The result has up to this time been a total failure. Urquiza began his administration by some enlightened measures. He opened the navigation of the rivers, and he admitted the equal rights of the several provinces. But in the eyes of the community of Buenos Ayres he was viewed with detestation as a usurper and an intruder. In his turn he was compelled to have recourse to severe measures; the city rebelled, his officers were driven out, and he once more proceeded to hostilities. The effects of this contest threatened for a time to be almost as injurious to the trade of Buenos Ayres as the long siege under Oribe had been to Monte Video; and these consequences were the more severely felt inasmuch as the previous war had thrown the largest trading interests to the south bank of the River Plate. But the struggle was not destined to have a long duration. Colonel Dias, who was charged by Urquiza to invest the place by land, suddenly passed over to the besieged inhabitants with a considerable portion of his forces; and at the same time the squadron which was blockading Buenos Ayres by sea sold outright the cause it professed to defend. It is said that an American who commanded this naval force received a sum of £50,000 sterling in hard dollars for the transfer of his services. It is amusing to find that, having deposited his plunder in one of the vessels of the country, the Yankee skipper fell into the hands of a practitioner as sharp as himself, and was compelled to pay a commission of two per cent for the redemption of his capital. It may be presumed that this sum, which brought the war to a bloodless termination, was raised by the trade of the city, and, according to one account, General Urquiza had himself accepted a considerable sum of money to retire altogether from the country. If this intelligence be confirmed the war is for the present at an end; but there is less reason than ever to suppose that a firm or lasting Government has been established.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Aug. 21.—13th Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 22.—Warren Hastings died, 1818.
TUESDAY, 23.—American War commenced, 1775.
WEDNESDAY, 24.—St. Bartholomew.
THURSDAY, 25.—David Hume died, 1776. Sir W. Herschell died, 1822.
FRIDAY, 26.—Prince Albert born, 1819. Trincomalee taken, 1795.
SATURDAY, 27.—Admiral Blake born, 1699; died, 1657.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 27.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 25	3 55	4 15	4 30	4 50	5 5	5 20
5 5	6 15	6 30	6 45	7 5	7 15	7 40

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1853.

It appears from the explanations made by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons, on Tuesday last, that the Turkish question is not yet so thoroughly settled as the world has been led to believe. There is, however, little or no reason to doubt that the dispute will speedily be arranged upon the basis announced in our last publication. It was greatly to have been desired that Lord John Russell, as the leader of the British House of Commons, should have assumed a bolder front, and spoken with a more decided tone against the wicked ambition of Russia, if he judged it advisable to say anything at all upon the subject. Much as the British people love and desire peace, they still more fervently love and ardently desire the preservation of the national dignity and honour. Our Government, with the best intentions, and with the firmest determination, to uphold unimpaired the independence of Turkey against unjust aggression, has contrived somehow or other to let it appear that they have been too soft-spoken, too fearful of giving offence to Russia, and less bold and reliant upon right and justice than the Government of France have been. It is perhaps the necessary consequence of our Parliamentary system that Ministers should be chary of expressing their minds upon negotiations still in progress, or of imparting to the world a knowledge of State documents before they have reached the final stage of a mutual agreement, or a positive and irreconcilable disagreement between the high contracting parties; but it is no consequence of the system that the Executive Government should be over-fearful of giving offence to any power on the face of the earth, however splendid and overwhelming it may be. In his brilliant and masterly reply to the anti-Turkish speech of Mr. Cobden—a speech that sounded oddly from the mouth of him who once talked of “crumpling up” the Russian empire as he would a piece of paper, Lord Palmerston spoke with the true temper and spirit of a British statesman. His Lordship impressed many of his auditors, as he will impress the majority of his countrymen, with the fact, that the Aberdeen Administration is fortunate in possessing in its Home Minister a statesman so renowned for his

knowledge of foreign policy, and his super-eminent ability in dealing with it. Lord Palmerston, whose indomitable energy and sound judgment point him out as the fittest of living Englishmen to express the sentiments of the people on the subject of Russian domination, supplied what was wanting in Lord John Russell's speech. When the various State papers connected with the negotiations shall be given to the world, it may perhaps be found that Lord Clarendon, and the Administration in general, have assumed towards Russia a tone as high as that of Lord Palmerston. But in the meantime it is a subject for congratulation that, at an opportune moment, the man who so long and ably represented the foreign policy of Great Britain, and who is still one of the most influential and powerful members of the Administration, should have made it evident to all the world that there is no lack of spirit amongst Ministers or people in relation to this question. Boldness is the one thing needful both in Great Britain and France at the present moment. The more resolved they are, the more the Czar will be weakened and intimidated. The more positive they are in their demands for an immediate evacuation of the Danubian provinces, the better chance for the future peace of Europe. Mr. Layard touched the right chord when he insisted that the Czar ought not only to be compelled to withdraw from the territories which he has invaded, but that he should be bound to indemnify Turkey for the expenses he had caused her to incur. It is likely enough that it is now too late to take a stand upon such a position as this; but the country will be glad to learn, as it does, from the lips of Lord John Russell, that the British Government will consider “no settlement to be satisfactory which does not include, or immediately lead to, the evacuation of Moldavia and Wallachia.” When that shall be done, the basis of future efforts for the preservation of the peace of the world will be laid. Until that time, peace will, at the best, be but precarious, if not dishonourable.

ALL doubt as to the introduction and success of a modified and imperfect form of Christianity into China, is set at rest by the latest intelligence received from that empire. The seeds of true religion have been sown in a marvellous manner; and there is much reason to hope that in the due and appointed time those seeds will bear their proper fruit in extending the civilisation of the Chinese, and bringing them more completely within the fold of Christendom. No event of our age, wonderful as are the circumstances which occur year by year, and almost day by day, to mark it above all previous ages, as a period of the most extraordinary activity of mind, is more calculated than this to cause serious reflection, both among religious and among worldly men. It may be questioned whether history records any occurrence so magnificent in the present, and full of such splendid promise for the future, as the genuine conversion to Christianity of the Chinese people would be—whether considered in its religious and moral, or in its social and political aspects. We must yet, however, learn more of the rebels (or of the Christian patriots—the new name given to them by the English residents in China) before we can be entitled to assume that Christianity in China has become a real, a permanent, and a general development of the national mind. In the meantime, any authentic particulars in relation to the leaders of the revolution will be read with interest by statesmen and politicians, as well as by humbler members of the Christian community. The name of the principal leader is not TIEN-TEH, as originally stated in Europe, but Tschu Kiu Tao. He is called TIEN-TEH by his followers—a designation which signifies “Heavenly Virtue.” He claims to be a descendant of Tschu Tuen Tschang—a man sprung from the ranks of the people, who, in the year 1352, headed a revolt, and after a struggle of sixteen years, drove out, in 1368, the Mongolian dynasty, which then oppressed the native Chinese, and founded the dynasty of Ming. This great family gave the Chinese no less than sixteen Emperors, most of whom were men of ability and worth. The Ming dynasty remained at the head of the State until the year 1644, when it was, in its turn, expelled by the Tartars; and the Mantchou dynasty of Tsing, of which the present—if he be not by this time the late—Emperor is the representative. We have seen no trustworthy description of the personal characteristics of Tschu Kiu Tao; but the Chinese represent him as a man of great coolness, sagacity, and courage. Next in command, as well as in influence, is Hong Siu Tsiuen, surnamed Tai Ping, or the “Mighty Prince of Peace.” He is represented as a man of middle age, of a delicate and slender build, with an open and expressive countenance, and a sandy beard. Under him there are four Generals, called according to their local position, commanders of the East, West, North, and South. The two Ministers of State are Fong Schi Tschang and Schitabakai. The latter is said to be a man of erudition, and composes all the numerous proclamations of the Ming people. In another portion of our journal will be found a full account of all that is known in Europe on the subject of the rebellion; together with an abstract of the Christian books in circulation among the Chinese. Such a movement among a population of at least 350,000,000 of men is indubitably one for the success of which every lover of humanity must offer up his fervent aspirations.

In the course of the last three years pictured and printed records of the labours of Caroline Chisholm, in the cause of practical self-supporting colonisation, have repeatedly appeared in these columns. While her name was but little known in this country, beyond the dwellings of those humble persons to whose welfare she has devoted her life, we had the satisfaction of drawing attention to her objects and plans. The time has arrived when, after seven years of earnest, unremitting toil in England, Mrs. Chisholm considers that her work can be more beneficially prosecuted in Australia. The colony so little known six years ago—so little esteemed—has now become the “land of promise” to every working man. The time of famine—of labourers crowding the doors of docks and factories, in faint hope of employment—of workhouses filled with able-bodied as well as aged paupers—has passed away. The employers of labour have exchanged their fear of all-devouring poor-rates for a

fear of a dearth of labour. In the intermediate period, armies of the strongest and most enterprising of our labouring population have sought and found in Australia competence and independence, if not fortune. Although, amid the vast array that left these shores, lured by golden visions, many have suffered cruel privations, and many more have been bitterly disappointed, the large majority of men trained to labour have succeeded beyond their expectations. It is among this class now spread over the gold-fields of the interior of the two gold colonies, separated from each other by thousands of miles, without roads, with rude means of conveyance, without the common comforts of civilised life, that Caroline Chisholm proceeds to exercise that influence which she has acquired by a long life of philanthropy.

Under these circumstances we are not surprised to find that the most eminent men of all parties have united to gather such a testimonial of national gratitude as will do honour to the country which has benefited so much by her exertions, and enable her to continue them.

For this object Statesmen and Bankers, Churchmen and Dissenters, personal friends, and those who only know of Caroline Chisholm through the records of the Press, have cordially joined. In so joining, they express their admiration of the past, their confidence in her future services, and the sense of the honour done to the country by such a woman. She is now leaving us for a long long journey. We are glad to feel assured, for the sake not only of the estimable lady whom it is intended to honour, but of the character of our nation, that so much self-denial, wisdom, courage, and energy as she has exhibited will meet with acknowledgment worthy of the British people.

THE COURT.

There has been little to diversify the ordinary quiet routine of Court life during the past week at Osborne. On Saturday the Duchess of Kent arrived from Frogmore, on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, went to Whippingham parish church. The service was performed by the Rev. George Protheroe.

On Monday the Queen and Prince, the Princess Helena, and the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Augusta Bruce, the Hon. Mary Seymour, and the Hon. Captain de Ros, took a drive in two open carriages and four.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince, and the Royal children, walked out. Count Alexander Mensdorff arrived in the course of the day, from the Continent, on a visit to her Majesty.

On Wednesday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, Prince Arthur, and Count Alexander Mensdorff, embarked on board the *Fairy*, and honoured the Cowes regatta with their presence. The Royal party afterwards proceeded to Spithead, and passed round the ships-of-war lying at anchor there. His Royal Highness Prince Adalbert of Prussia, arrived at Osborne on Wednesday afternoon, on a visit to her Majesty. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the company at which included her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Catherine of Russia and Duke George of Mecklenburg Stritz, his Royal Highness Prince Adalbert of Prussia, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and Count Alexander Mensdorff. A select circle of the aristocracy were honoured with invitations in the evening.

On Thursday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent left Osborne, on her return to Clarence House, St. James's; where, after her arrival, she was visited by the Countess of Neully.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen held a Privy Council at Osborne House.

The route of the Queen from Osborne to Holyhead, on the 27th instant, will be from Southampton to Basingstoke, and thence by the Great Western to Leamington, whence the Royal party will be transferred to the narrow gauge. From Leamington her Majesty is to proceed via Coventry and Nuneaton, and on by the Trent Valley to Stafford, Crewe, and Chester. Owing to the breaks of gauge, her Majesty will have to change carriages at Basingstoke and Leamington.

The Duke of Beaufort is staying at Cowes for the yachting season. His Grace has a cruise daily in his yacht, accompanied by the Ladies Somerset.

The Duke of Rutland arrived at Cowes, on Friday last, in his yacht, the *Resolution*, from Cherbourg, en route to his sporting quarters in Derbyshire.

The Countess of Ellesmere, Lady Blanche Egerton, and Captain the Hon. A. F. Egerton, have arrived at Liverpool from New York. The Earl and the rest of the family are expected shortly.

The Earl of Aberdeen entertained the Cabinet Ministers at dinner, on Wednesday, at his residence, Argyll House.

Viscount Ingestre sailed from Liverpool, on Saturday last, for New York. It is his Lordship's intention, after making a tour of the United States, to visit the Havana, Jamaica, and other West India Islands.

Lady Clarence Paget was safely delivered of a son on Monday last, and with the infant, is progressing favourably.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer left town on Wednesday for Scotland.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR FREDERIC HAMILTON, BART., OF SILVERTON HILL, COUNTY LANARK.

The death of this venerable Baronet, who had attained the age of seventy-six, occurred on the 14th inst.

Sir Frederic entered the civil service of the East India Company in 1793, and was for some time Collector of Revenues for the District of Benares. He retired on the annuity fund in 1833. The branch of the great house of Hamilton which he represented was founded by Alexander de Hamilton, second son of Sir James Hamilton, of Cadzow, from whom sprang the Dukes of Hamilton.

Sir Frederic, who succeeded to the Baronetcy at the decease of his grandfather Sir Robert, married 20th Feb., 1800, Eliza Dunbar, youngest daughter of John Collier, M.D., of Calcutta; and by her (who died 11th Feb., 1841) leaves several children, the eldest son being the present Sir Robert North Collier Hamilton, sixth Baronet of Silverton Hill.

GENERAL SIR FREDERICK ADAM, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,

COLONEL 21ST FOOT.

THIS highly distinguished officer died suddenly on the 17th inst. He had been on a visit to his brother, Admiral Sir Charles Adam, at Greenwich Hospital, and was entering one of the Greenwich Railway carriages to return to London, when he suddenly ceased to exist.

Sir Frederick was son of the late Right Hon. William Adam, of Blair Adam, Lord-Lieutenant of Kinrosshire, Lord Chief Commissioner of the Jury Court of Scotland, by the Hon. Eleanor Elphinstone, his wife, sister of Admiral Lord Keith. He entered the army in 1795, and served with great reputation in Holland, Egypt, Sicily, Calabria, Spain, and France. In Holland he was present at the actions of the 27th August, 10th September, and 20th September, 1799; and in Egypt, at those of the 8th, 13th, and 21st of March, 1801. He was severely wounded near Alicante, 12th April, 1813; and, at the Pass of Ordal, had his left arm and hand broken. At Waterloo he received also a severe wound. The rank of General he attained 9th November, 1846. In 1824, he was appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands; and, from 1832 to 1835, was Governor of Madras. In 1831, he was sworn of the Privy Council. In addition to the insignia of Grand Cross of the Bath, and of St. Michael and St. George, conferred by his own Sovereign, he bore those of Maria Theresa and St. Anne of Russia.

Sir Frederick Adam married, first, a Greek lady, who died in 1844; and secondly, in 1851, the daughter of the late John Maberly, Esq.

COAL IN EGYPT.—A letter from Alexandria of the 5th says that “a coal-mine has been discovered at Mount Sinai. The Viceroy seems much delighted, and at once has despatched engineers to the spot to send in a report.”

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 18.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Aug. 12	30.174	71.0	49.5	59.2	-2.4	70	N.E.	0.00
" 13	30.118	71.4	56.0	60.5	-0.9	83	N.E.	0.00
" 14	29.977	67.1	54.2	58.3	-3.0	83	N.E.	0.00
" 15	29.973	68.4	54.1	57.9	-3.4	80	N.E.	0.00
" 16	29.746	67.2	52.0	57.2	-3.9	86	S.E.	0.24
" 17	29.509	71.1	54.8	60.7	-0.3	72	VAR.	0.02
" 18	29.899	69.5	44.5	57.0	-3.8	72	S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.26 inches, at the beginning of the week, to 29.59 inches by 9 a.m., on the 17th, and increased to 29.97 inches by the end of the week. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.914 inches. The mean daily temperatures were below their averages on every day, from the 5th to the 18th, the mean daily defect being 2.3°. The mean temperature of the week was 58.7°, being 2.8° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years. The highest reading of the thermometer was 71.4° (on the 13th), and the lowest 44.5° (on the 18th); their difference, 26.9°, shows the range of temperature during the week. The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 17.4°. Rain fell during the week to the depth of 0.26 inch.

J. GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending Saturday, August 13, the number of births registered in the metropolitan districts was 1461; of these, 709 were boys and 752 were girls. The average numbers in the eight corresponding weeks of the eight preceding years, was 1351. The number of deaths registered in the week was 934; the average of the last five weeks was 971. The causes of death are thus distributed:—To zymotic diseases, 320 deaths are attributed (their average is 428); of these, 3 are due to small-pox (its average is 17); to measles, 12 (its average is 23); to scarlatina, 30 (its average is 37); to hooping-cough, 26 (its average is 19); to diarrhoea, 129 (its average is 110); to cholera, 19; to ague, 2 (its average is 6); typhus, 60 (its average is 41). To dropsy, cancer, &c., 38 (their average is 45). To tubercular diseases, 106 deaths are attributed (their average is 173); of these, 135 are due to consumption. To diseases of the nerves, brain, and senses, 89 (their average is 112). To diseases of the heart and blood-vessels, 29 (their average is 27). To diseases of the lungs and the other organs of respiration, 77 (their average is 75); of these, 37 are due to bronchitis (its average is 20), to pneumonia, 27 (its average is 36), and to asthma, 4 (which is its average number). To intemperance no deaths are attributed during this week; to violence, 28 (its average is 23). In comparing the above results with those of the past week, it will be seen that, while tubercular diseases and diseases of the heart continue of the same amount, diseases of the nervous system have declined, together with those of the respiratory organs; whilst the epidemic class has risen from 270 to 320. In the aggregate, the mortality of the metropolis exhibits little variation this week from that exhibited during the preceding three weeks.

A CABINET COUNCIL was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the Foreign Office, Downing-street. The Ministers present were the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat two hours and a half.

NEW METROPOLITAN MEDICAL COLLEGE.—A medical college, in connection with the Royal Free Hospital, is to be opened for the reception of students on the 1st of October next. The buildings necessary for the purpose are now in progress, and will be speedily completed, and the formation of an extensive museum has been determined upon.

CLERGY ORPHAN CORPORATION.—On Tuesday a quarterly court of the Governors of the Incorporated Society for Maintaining and Educating Poor Orphan Children of the Clergy was held at the offices of the society, 79, Pall-mall; Rev. Dr. Russell in the chair. The report stated that, as the schools in St. John's-wood were inadequate to the objects of the charity, it had been resolved to appropriate them to the sole use of the girls, and to increase their number from 70 to 100, and to raise another edifice for 200 boys. To carry out this purpose, they required an increase of funds and a proper site. Under these circumstances, the Rev. Dr. Warneford contributed £3000 to purchase a site (St. Thomas's-hill, Canterbury), £4000 towards the building fund, and £6000 to found six scholarships. The scheme, however, could not be carried out without a building fund amounting to £25,000, and an increase of £5000 in the annual income, to collect which a special committee was appointed, and the charitable and humane invited to contribute their support. A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

THE DECIMAL COINAGE.—The report of the select committee of the House of Commons has been laid before the House. It commences by stating that the concurrent testimony of the various witnesses with regard to the inconveniences of the existing system was clear and decided, and equally strong in favour of the adoption of the decimal system upon numerous grounds. The report concluded by saying:—"Your committee feel that a certain period of preparation, destined to facilitate the transition from the present to the new system, is indispensable. During such a transition period, various measures should be adopted with a view to prepare the way for ulterior changes, and to create in the public mind a desire for their completion. Your committee believe that no unnecessary delay should prevent the full introduction of the decimal system, and they recommend that the necessary preparatory measures should be entered on at the Royal Mint as soon as possible."

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—For the accommodation of the residents in Belgrave and Eaton squares, in Piccadilly, and in the neighbourhood, the Postmaster-General has been pleased to direct that the office at No. 5, Lyall-place, Eaton-square, shall remain open till seven o'clock a.m., for the receipt of letters to be forwarded by the morning mails. The regulation will be confined to unpaid and stamped letters, and will not include newspapers.

NEW SMITHFIELD MARKET.—The Corporation of London are actively engaged forming the New Smithfield in Copenhagen-fields. The ground has been purchased for £65,000, and Copenhagen House and grounds are entirely gone. The sewerage has been contracted for, and the works have commenced. The entire cost of the erection will be £43,221; the market will contain lairs for 3,000 bullocks, and pens for 42,000 sheep. The income is put down at £18,350; the annual cost of management at £4,350, leaving a clear annual income of £14,000 to the Corporation. It is expected that the new market will be ready for opening at Midsummer, 1854.

FIRE.—On Wednesday morning, at seven o'clock, a fire of a destructive character, and attended with considerable damage, broke out in the premises of Mr. T. M. L. Brown, wholesale glass, china, and Staffordshire warehousman, at No. 47, St. Martin's-lane. The contents were insured in the Phoenix Office, and the building in the Westminster Office. The flatting-mills of Mr. G. A. Buckland, in Pop-gardens, were also slightly damaged on the occasion by water. On the same morning, at five o'clock, a fire broke out in the premises of Mr. Vining, a cutler, No. 125, Regent-street, St. James's; and was not extinguished until the costly fixtures and plate glass front were destroyed, and the valuable stock in trade extensively burned. The premises were insured in the Royal Exchange, and the contents in the Sun, Fire-offices. A third fire happened this same day, on the premises of Mr. T. Lovell, Commercial-place, East-lane, Walworth, which was so rapid in its progress that the residents had the greatest difficulty in effecting a safe retreat from the building; and the flames were not subdued until the premises and their contents were destroyed—unfortunately the sufferer was not insured for a single penny.

APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE BY A "THIRTY-SIX YEARS" PRISONER.—At the Judges' Chambers, on Saturday last, an old man, named Richard Candlin, was brought up on a writ of *habeas corpus* before Mr. Justice Williams, and applied for his discharge. The present application was opposed, on the ground that the original debt still existed; but the defendant could get his discharge by filing a schedule in the Insolvent Debtors' Court, and an offer had been made to do so, free of expense, but he would not allow it to be done. The applicant denied the latter allegation. Mr. Justice Williams told him he could do nothing for him; he must file his schedule. The applicant said he was unjustly detained, and he would not file his schedule. Mr. Justice Williams—"Then, if you're obstinate, you must take the consequences." The old man left in custody of the jailer, and was taken to his old quarters in the Queen's Prison.

OLD BAYLEY.—On Tuesday, at the Central Criminal Court, Edward Raynaud, aged thirty-six, a diminutive Frenchman, described as a tailor, was indicted for having unlawfully solicited the Prince de Joinville to commit in a conspiracy to assassinate Louis Napoleon, the Emperor of the French. The particulars of the case were given so recently, that they need not be repeated. The Prince de Joinville and other witnesses were examined. Mr. Baron Platt summed up; and the jury retired to consider their verdict. Upon their return, in twenty minutes, they gave a verdict of "Not guilty;" the foreman adding that they were of opinion that the only object the prisoner had in writing the letters was to extort money from the Prince.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY AND KING'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.—The following gentlemen at the above university had the degree of Doctor of Medicine conferred on them by the "Senatus Academicus":—P. Dicken, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; C. C. Hayman, West Malling; W. Smith, Weyhill, Hants; J. S. Taylor, Liverpool; J. Nash, Box, Wiltshire; C. G. Hewson, Toppasham, Devon; and H. Callaway, E. H. Greenhow, J. R. Hancorn, A. Richardson, W. Smart, R.E., K.N.; J. Campbell, H.E.I.C.S.; J. Kidd, J. H. Vincent, and C. H. Payne, of London.

ACCIDENT TO THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER.—An accident occurred on Thursday week to Dr. Monk, Bishop of Gloucester. The right rev. prelate having occasion to pay a visit on business to the Forest of Dean, he entered a carriage for the purpose of proceeding to the railway. In descending a hill, one of the horses commenced kicking and plunging at a furious rate, causing great alarm to the inmates of the vehicle. After a time the animal got his leg over an iron bar, and was thrown down, and thus disabled from doing further mischief. A servant was thrown from the carriage, but the venerable prelate fortunately escaped injury.

MAJORITY OF THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN.—The coming of age of the Marquis of Lothian was celebrated on Friday week, at Newbattle, with general rejoicings. But, when the festivity was at its height, and while the Duke of Buccleuch was speaking, Mr. Dodd, of Nisbet, one of Lord Lothian's tenants, was taken ill of epilepsy, and many moments had scarcely elapsed when intimation was received that the gentleman was dead. The melancholy event created a profound sensation, and was keenly felt by the noble lord. The park was immediately directed to be cleared of the visitors, and the noble family and their distinguished guests retired into privacy.

NEW TOWN-HALL, LEEDS.—The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a new Town-hall at Leeds took place on Wednesday, and was attended by the Mayor, the magistrates, the vicar (the Rev. Dr. Hook), the representatives of the borough, and the members of various local societies. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the Mayor, Mr. E. Baines, and other gentlemen. The architect is Mr. Broderick, late of Hull. The principal room will not be so spacious as Westminster-hall, but larger than St. George's-hall, Liverpool, the Birmingham Town-hall, or Exeter-hall. The building will accommodate 8,000 persons.

NETTING THE THAMES AT MAIDENHEAD.—The preserves in this vicinity were dragged a few days since, by an enormous net 300 feet in length. The doer of this affair is a fisherman, a resident at Maidenhead, who informs the numerous lovers of the art resorting there throughout the summer, that "the waters are most carefully preserved." The stakes imbedded in the river were expressly drawn for this event, affording to the poachers an opportunity of completing what the fisherman began. Anglers should be made aware of this.

RAMSGATE.—THE BELGIAN ROYAL FAMILY.—Their Royal Highnesses the Duke de Brabant and the Count de Flandres arrived at Ramsgate, on Thursday week, in the *Ruby*, from Ostend, on a visit to their illustrious relatives, the ex-Queen of the French and the members of the ex-Royal family, who are sojourning at the Royal Hotel. Upon the announcement of their Royal Highnesses' arrival in the harbour, the ex-Queen left the hotel without waiting to complete her toilette, and met her grandchildren on the pier. The scene was witnessed by a great crowd of spectators, and is described to have been peculiarly affecting.

PORTSMOUTH, August 16.—A division of the Spithead fleet, as at present ordered, will put to sea, under Rear-Admiral Corry, on Thursday. They will cruise off Lisbon. The ships of the fleet shifted berth yesterday, and now form three lines instead of two.

THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL OF THE PRUSSIAN NAVY AT SPITHEAD.—On Tuesday evening his Royal Highness Prince Albert of Prussia, Lord High Admiral, arrived at Gosport from London, on a visit to her Majesty at Osborne. He wished no saluting to be observed on the occasion of his visit, and was met privately at the Gosport station by Commodore Schroeder, and aide-de-camp, of the Prussian frigate *Gefion*, in whose barge the Prince went off, and remained on board the frigate during the night. Wednesday morning his Royal Highness was saluted by the corvette *Amazon* with nineteen guns, the Admiral's flag being hoisted at the main of the frigate.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—By the arrival at Portsmouth, on Wednesday, of the transport *Diligence*, which accompanied Commander Englefield to the Arctic Seas, with provisions for the other expeditions, in search for the long lost Sir John Franklin, we have intelligence of the safe arrival of her Majesty's ship *Phoenix* and her tenders at the island of Disco, where she picked up the crew of a whaler, the *Rose*, of Hull, in deep distress, their ship being wrecked and abandoned in the ice in Melville Bay. Commander Englefield has sent home the men in the *Diligence*, in charge of Lieut. Maryatt, and they have been landed at Portsmouth. Commander Englefield, with the other transport, pushed on for Beechy Island, on the 10th of July last; on the 20th of which month the *Diligence* sailed from Disco homewards.

THE BACTON MURDER.—William Flack, left for execution for the murder at the Bacton Rectory, was to have been executed on Saturday; but, from the inability of the executioner to reach Ipswich in time, the execution is postponed. In answer to an application for a commutation of the sentence, on the ground of Flack's extreme youth and lamentable ignorance. Lord Palmerston says he apprehends that it requires no particular instruction to make a man feel that a barbarous murder is an atrocious crime, and his Lordship regrets that he can see no reason to justify him in advising any interference in this case with the due course of law.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday, the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the Bishopsgate station; J. Patterson, Esq., in the chair, and the usual guarantee dividend from the Eastern Counties Company was declared.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of the directors of this company was held at Bristol; C. Russell, Esq., in the chair; when a dividend at the rate of four per cent per annum was declared—certain shares, in arrears of calls forfeited—and the directors authorised to create a new preferential stock, in pursuance of the powers of their act of the present session, not exceeding £4,000,000, to replace the debenture debt, and to bear an interest not exceeding four per cent.

HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPRIETORS.—A meeting of proprietors was held on Monday, at St. Martin's-hall, and adjourned to Thursday, when the following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That this meeting, having learned that the original clause B in the Hackney Carriage Bill has been restored, and that the said bill is being proceeded with as speedily as possible, feel that the alarm which was experienced by the trade (in consequence of the proceedings in the House of Lords on Monday night last) need no longer exist." The meeting then separated.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE ACCIDENT.—At three o'clock on Thursday, the bodies of the ten men unfortunately killed on Monday, were interred in Sydenham parish church-yard; the whole of the arrangements and expense, we need scarcely say, being undertaken by Messrs. Fox and Henderson. The whole of the workmen employed on the works followed their unfortunate brethren to their grave; the cortege presented a very mournful effect. On the same day an inquest was held on the remains of two other of the victims, who died shortly after their removal to Guy's Hospital; and the jury, having visited the site of the catastrophe, and hearing a mass of evidence from Sir C. Fox and others, returned a unanimous verdict of "Accidental Death."

THE NEWLY-DISCOVERED GUANO.—Professor Way, of London, and Professor Anderson, of Glasgow, have analysed the guano, &c., on the newly-discovered islands, which are most satisfactory, and active measures are being taken to secure the guanos for the British farmer.

SUDDEN DEATH.—M. Jessime, a bass singer, of the Brest Theatre, had just finished singing on Monday evening week his first song in the "Chalet" when the audience saw him all at once sink on the stage. Two actors who were standing near, heard him say "Quick, some water," and when they raised him up he was insensible. Medical aid was brought, but without effect, as he expired in a few hours after.

ENGLISH COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, MADEIRA.—The annual examinations took place during the last ten days of June, and the prizes were distributed on the 1st of July. Gold Medal—L. A. Ribeiro. Silver Medals—W. C. Hinton, and H. T. Ellicott. First in Classics and Mathematics—E. J. Poynter. French—Ribeiro. English—Poynter. Portuguese—Poynter. Sir Arch. Alison's prize for History—W. Phelps. Dr. Ross's prizes for Arithmetic and Algebra—R. K. Miller, and H. R. D'Orcy. Mr. Hinton's prize for Map-drawing—H. H. Almacke, H. T. Ellicott, and R. K. Miller.

EXTRAORDINARY ROWING MATCH.—The Paris regatta came off with great *clat* on Monday, a great number of boats being entered. Rouen and Havre sent some of their best crews. The English Amateur Rowing Club also entered the lists, but broke two of their rowlocks when starting in their French four oared boat built according to the required size; however, to the surprise of everybody, the English boat started with two instead of four men, and a most exciting race ensued, the English taking the lead and keeping it—beating fifteen four-oared boats, and winning the silver medal! The applause was most enthusiastic. In the second race the Paris Amateur Club carried off the first prize—a gold medal.—*Galignani*.

AMERICAN ALOE.—A beautiful specimen of this plant is now bursting into bloom in the Italian garden of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, at Plymouth. It is expected to reach about thirty feet when it is at its full growth. The plant is said to be about 100 years old, and there are about thirty spikes of flowers coming into blossom.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Hon and Rev. F. N. Clements, to an honorary canonry in Durham Cathedral. The Rev. J. A. Sellar, to a canonry in Perth Cathedral, and to the rectorship of the Cathedral Grammar-school. Rectories: The Rev. J. Buckley, to Sopworth, Wilts; the Rev. G. B. Dawson, to Gilbertstown, united to Aghadoe, county Carlow; the Rev. E. K. Elliott, to Broadwater, Sussex; the Rev. A. J. Maclean, to Charlcombe, Somerset; the Rev. J. Nuen, to Thorndon, near Rye, Suffolk; the Rev. J. Rowlands, to Grimston, Norfolk; the Rev. E. Whitehead, to Godmanstone, near Dorchester; the Rev. C. B. Barrow, to Barwell, Leicestershire. Vicarages: The Rev. T. Broke, to Ballyseedy, county Kerry; the Rev. F. Gipps, to Corbridge, near Hexham; the Rev. S. Newall, to Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, with Brownsover annexed, near Rugby; the Ven. J. Sandford, to Grimley, with Hallow annexed, near Worcester; the Rev. J. F. Pizey, to Bozeat, with the rectory of Strixton annexed, near Wellingborough, Northamptonshire; the Rev. W. H. Miner, to Horncastle, Lincolnshire; the Rev. W. S. Prout, to Lakenheath, near Brandon Ferry, Suffolk; the Rev. R. C. Hubbersty, to Helpstone, Northamptonshire; the Rev. E. Hanson, to Thaxted, Chelmsford.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of esteem and regard:—The Rev. J. H. Knapp, late curate of Kirk Deighton, Yorkshire; the Rev. G. E. Murray, rector of Southfleet, Kent; the Rev. S. Newall, late perpetual curate of Tunstall, Staffordshire; the Rev. C. T. Pizey, late curate of Bedworth, Warwickshire; the Rev. R. Smith, late curate of St. James's, Whitfield, Derbyshire; the Rev. J. C. T. Stretch, late incumbent of Penk-hull, Stoke-upon-Trent (proceeding to Geelong, Port Phillip).

IRELAND.

THE *Dublin Evening Post* contains the following:—"We are enabled to announce, with certainty, that her Majesty is sufficiently recovered from her recent illness to fulfil her intention of visiting Ireland. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert are to arrive in Dublin on the 29th inst., accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, and attended by Earl Granville and the Marquis of Breadalbane."

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT is to visit Limerick in September, when the new docks are to be opened, and the first sod of the two railways, the Ennis and Kilmalee, and the Limerick and Foynes, are to be raised.

NOTWITHSTANDING that it rained during the entire of Tuesday, the Exhibition presented a comparatively full appearance, no less than 7553 persons being present. Amongst the distinguished visitors were the Comte de Paris, Prince Robert of Orleans, Count Paul of Anjou, and Mr. Justice Halburton. The total number of visitors to the Exhibition, from the opening to the 11th inst. inclusive, was 573,561.

MR. EDMOND O'FLAHERTY has been appointed, conjointly with Mr. Godley, Commissioner of Income-tax for Ireland.

THE *Cork Constitution* states that 2390 emigrants sailed from Queenstown from the 1st of May up to the 11th of August. Of these, 1596 were for Quebec, 367 for New York, 283 for St. John's, and 144 for Boston.

FROM all parts of the country the reports of the crops are highly satisfactory. A good deal of wheat, oats, and barley has already been reaped. There is scarcely a word about potato blight. An abundant harvest is generally calculated upon.

A FIRE broke out in the Limerick Town-hall on Friday evening week, which was not subdued until damage to the amount of £2500 was done.

RAILWAYS IN INDIA.—The Governor-General has sent home, for the adoption of the home Government, a large and comprehensive plan of railways for India, which, if carried out in its integrity, will effect the greatest and most sudden revolution in the habits, the commerce, and the resources of India that ever took place upon any country in the world. The plan of the Governor-General is, that the line now commenced from Calcutta shall strike the Ganges at Rajmahal, a distance of 180 miles, thus avoiding some of the worst navigation on the river, and opening up an enormous and wealthy district to communication with the capital. The line will then be carried along the right bank of the river, passing through the town of Patna, and close to the cities of Benares and Allahabad, where the navigation of the Ganges ends. From Allahabad the line will proceed across the Doab to Agra, and thence to Delhi, making, in all, a distance of 1100 miles. The line is understood to be extremely favourable as far as gradients are concerned, the principal difficulties consisting in the alluvial nature of the soil, in the danger of inundation from the vicinity of the great river, and in the crossing two mighty tributaries, the Soane and the Jumna. The bridges over these rivers are works of a very formidable and expensive character, so much so that they will probably be deferred for the present, and a steam-ferry substituted. From Allahabad to Delhi everything is favourable to the construction of a railway; the ground is firm, the country level, and thoroughly surveyed, owing to the works which have been carried on in connection with the Ganges Canal. It is in contemplation to carry this line from Delhi to Lahore, and from Lahore to Peshawur, thus piercing through the very heart of Hindostan, and connecting the waters of the Hooghly and Burhampooter with the distant spurs of the Western Himalayas. If this great work be carried out, and we know no reason why it should not be, it will effectually efface the stigma cast upon our administration; and, while it augments our revenue and consolidates our power, will found a memorable and durable monument of our greatness and beneficence.—*Times*.

INDICTMENT OF THE RIGHT HON. MAJOR BERESFORD, M.P., AND OTHERS.—An indictment has been presented at the Central Criminal Court, and a true bill found, against Major W. Beresford, M.P., G. H. R. Cox, W. Cox, J. Muish, A. Ackerman, J. Clark, C. Hibbert, J. Calow, J. Savage, T. Morgan, and T. Lund. The indictment is very long and special, and charges the defendants with having conspired to bribe the electors of Derby, and to carry the election by illegal and unconstitutional means. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., is retained to conduct the prosecution, and Sir F. Theisger for some of the defendants. The trial will take place at the next sessions of the Central Criminal Court. By the recent Act of Lord Campbell prosecutions for conspiracy cannot be removed by *certiorari* to the Court of Queen's Bench, except upon affidavit that the defendant cannot have a fair and impartial trial in the county. It is presumed, therefore, in this case, that the trial will take place at the Central Criminal Court, where the indictment was found.

AFFAIR OF HONOUR.—Mr. Frewen, one of the members for Sussex, was anxious to retain a clause prohibiting dogs from drawing trucks on the highway (and which clause was struck out in the Lords); he therefore printed a circular, but marked "private," which he sent to his friends on the Conservative side, calling on them to muster in force, so as to reinstate the clause put out by the Upper House. One of these circulars fell into the hands of Sir John Shelley, who read it, amid much laughter, to the assembled Commons. The day following, Mr. Frewen sent to Sir John to know from what Conservative member he had received the aforesaid circular. Sir John stated he had not received it from a Conservative at all, but declined saying where he obtained it. Hence arose an angry correspondence, which was ended by Sir John's solicitors addressing Mr. Frewen in this mode:—"Sir,—We are instructed by Sir John Shelley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., and to desire that you will not trouble that gentleman with any further communications. We shall give the same publicity to the correspondence which you gave to your first letter of the 10th inst.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants, TYRRELL, PAINE, and LAYTON."

MILITARY KNIGHTS OF WINDSOR.—A vacancy has occurred in this honourable body, by the demise of Esau John Lamb, of the 2nd Royal Veteran Battalion, who died in Windsor Castle, on the 12th inst. Mr. Lamb served with great credit for many years in her Majesty's 29th Foot; he was present at the battles of Roleia, Vimiera, and Talavera, for which he had the war medal and three clasps. The deceased veteran was the only surviving member of a family whose united military services extended over a period of a century: his father, grandfather, uncle, and two brothers having fallen in the service of their country.

WHEAT GRINDING.—A deputation of the patentees, solicitors, and others interested in the new system of grinding wheat, consisting of Mr. Walter Westrup, Dr. Dundas Thomson, F.R.S.E., and many other gentlemen, had an interview on Tuesday with the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, at the Board of Trade, on the subject of a petition for a charter of incorporation for the "Royal Conical Flour Mill Company." In the absence of Lord Beaumont, Mr. Northhouse, the Parliamentary manager of the petitioners, introduced the deputation and argued the case.

BRETT'S PATENT SKETCHING APPARATUS.—Our attention has lately been called to a little contrivance, combining the apparatus employed by artists and tourists in sketching from nature. It is simple and ingenious, and particularly commends itself to the pedestrian by its portability, and includes a comfortable seat.

RECEIPT STAMPS.—The act for regulating receipt stamps will not come into operation until the 11th of October. By this law, receipt stamps given for or upon the payment of money amounting to £2 or upwards, will bear a stamp of 1d. The duties of 1d. by this act granted on receipts and on drafts or orders for the payment of money respectively, may be denoted either by a stamp impressed upon the paper whereon any such instrument is written, or by an adhesive stamp affixed thereto; and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue are to provide stamps of both descriptions.

MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL FESTIVALS.—The new Music Hall at Bradford, in Yorkshire, will be opened on Wednesday, August 31. The festival to celebrate this event will terminate on the 2nd of September, the programme consisting of three morning and three evening performances. There will be an Elstveded, or gathering of Welsh bards, at Aberpawly next month. On the 13th of September the meeting of the three Johns of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester will take place in the last mentioned town.

ENGLISH OPERA.—At the Lyceum Theatre, on Wednesday, Arthur's "La Diavola" and Gay's "Beggars' Opera" were performed: the principal characters sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Mrs. Julia Harland; Messrs. Manvers, Weiss, T. Jones, H. Corri, G. Tidd, &c.

OPERA AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.—It is announced that this establishment is to be opened for twelve nights, with foreign opera.

CONCERT FOR THE CITY HALL, GLASGOW.—This great instrumental, built by Gray and Davison, was played upon last Thursday, at the concert given, in the new road, by Mr. Henry Smart, the composer.

THE THEATRES.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

One of the largest audiences ever assembled within the walls of Covent Garden, greeted the farewell performance of Grisi and Mario, in the opera "L'Inferno," last Monday; the ordinary subscription evening having been changed, as their engagement ended on the 15th inst., and they were anxious to visit Italy, prior to a tour with Mr. Berle, in the provinces, next month; at the conclusion of which, if a large sum of money be forthcoming from American speculators, they will leave this country for the United States. It is, therefore, not altogether certain that Grisi and Mario will take a Transatlantic trip. The engagement is so large, and the deposit thereon exacted by the two managers, for prepayment is so great, that doubts are reasonably entertained whether the undertaking will be persevered with. Admittedly, however, that they do depart, it is next a question whether they may not be expected in due course for the season of 1854 at the Royal Italian Opera. No official notification has been given of their retirement from the stage; and it is so usual for great actors and great singers to repeat their "farewell seasons" so long as they can find a public willing to receive them, that we take leave to disbelieve altogether the rumours of the final exit of Grisi and Mario for the present. It is a melancholy truth that nobody, in this world, is indispensable; and the lyric stage cannot be kept empty, whatever celebrity may vanish, after "fetting" the usual hour thereon; but there is no occasion for Grisi, and still less so for Mario, to retire for some time to come. Even if the "Diva" be not in the possession of the executive facility and precision of her younger days, her voice is still of surpassing power and richness. She is not in the winter of her days, nor is she yet past the glorious meridian. Her vocal and personal attractions still suffice for the *Norma*, the *Lucrèce*, the *Donna Anna*, the *Valentina*, the *Anna Bolina*, &c. Her face still beams with intelligence—her eyes are undimmed in the lustre of a gifted soul—her histrionic energy is still unvalued. In dramatic intensity, last Monday, she proved that she had in no way deteriorated; and she awakened an applause equalling that of her most palmy moments. It was a grand, a brilliant, and a terrible performance: her genius asserted its supremacy unmistakably; her defence of the taunting nobles was as daring, her despair at the poisoning of *Genaro* as deep, her attitude after his escape through the secret panel as commanding, and the mother's agony at his death as acute as when Giulia Grisi was vent some fourteen or fifteen years ago, to excite the connoisseurs of the Covent Garden Opera House. And as for Mario, it is evident that the note he works, in the better condition is his voice; his career is only concluding; it is only since he has been at the Royal Italian Opera that he has developed his acting powers. Who could recognise in the energetic Mario of last Monday the tame tenor who walked through *Count Ory* and *Roberto* at the Parisian Grand Opera in 1839, and the inanimate specimen of humanity who entered the lists in 1840 in London, as the successor of Rubini? Never has there been progress more surprising than that of Mario of late years. He elicited signs of rapture at each phrase, and excited an immense sensation in the dying scene of *Genaro*. His luscious, fluty tones; his exquisitely perfect style of phrasing, the delicacy and refinement of his execution, were distinctly marked on this occasion. The passion and pathos of the two distinguished artists in the final scene, caused the curtain to descend amidst vociferous cheering, and the ovations bestowed at the end of each act were renewed with a *furor* almost rivalling that displayed by audiences of the southern sky. Amidst all this excitement—all these demonstrations—there was still one singer who commanded equally the admiration of his auditory, and this was Ronconi, who was never more subtle, who never exhibited more *finesse*, and who was never more masterly in his admirable delineation of the *Duke*. Great as have been the lyrical performances within Covent-garden walls, it may be questioned whether the trio in the second act ever approached in perfection to that of last Monday night. It was a night to remember—one of those matchless displays of art to be treasured in memory's note-book.

Of the representation of Thursday's "Prophète," and of to-night's (Saturday) "Guglielmo Tell," we shall report progress in our next week's publication. The seventh campaign will be ended this evening, and, until 1854, the Royal Italian Opera portals will be closed.

THE AZTEC CHILDREN.—These strange little creatures seem to have established themselves effectually in the favour of the public. The Adelaide Gallery is nightly crowded. The reduction in the price of admission has shown that the removal of the former somewhat extravagant charge was all that was wanted for their popularity.

"RATIONAL AMUSEMENTS FOR THE INDUSTRIOUS CLASSES."

SUCH is the heading of a hand-bill, distributed freely last week in the neighbourhood of Fitzroy-square, and which contained the programme of a selection of music to be given at the Hall of Association, in Castle-street, with prices of admission low enough to meet the pockets of those to whom it was addressed.

This title—"The Hall of Association"—is given to a good-sized irregularly-shaped room, underneath the workshops of the "Working Tailors' Association"—one of the few societies of working-men, which have succeeded in taking deep root in the London soil, and that chiefly owing to the zeal and business-like qualifications of its manager. To this gentleman must also, in a great measure, be given the credit of having endeavoured by means of these evenings of "rational amusement," to entice the working classes away from irrational amusements, or rather distractions, which to a large number of them are found irresistible, in the shape of "Harmonic meetings," "Concerts for the million," with inseparable accompaniments of beer and tobacco, at flash taverns in almost every street in London; not to speak of the lower kind of entertainments—the penny concerts, galls, &c., at which the rising generation amuses itself by inhaling laughing-gas, slang, and obscene jokes—where immorality and law-breaking are inculcated as not only praiseworthy occupations, but the chief delights of existence. How this teaching succeeds is but too apparent in our every-day police reports; and whilst we are squabbling about sectarian differences, and making hindrances to the introduction of a national scheme, this education of the people amongst themselves progresses rapidly enough. But to return to our "rational amusement." The programme contained some four-and-twenty pieces—too long by one-half—out of which fifteen were songs, the rest concerted vocal pieces, with a solitary fantasia for the pianoforte. No names were given of the singers, but it was understood that they were amateurs from that very working class they came forward (after their own day's labour at an end) to give an innocent and cheerful evening's amusement to, without the extraneous excitement of pipe and bottle, the regalia of the gin-palace. The room was crowded to excess by working men, their wives, and children. At half-past eight o'clock eighteen well-dressed chorists took their seats on the platform; an energetic conductor, with the customary white kids, raised his baton, and the concert commenced with the harmonised version of "The Last Rose of Summer." Song after song, glee after glee, succeeded, with more or less applause from the delighted audience, who showed a better appreciation of the music than one sometimes finds at a more fashionable concert. The part-music was especially enjoyed, and with good reason; for the various glees and choruses went with a precision and attention to the *nuances* which gave evident proof of the enjoyment of the executants in the music itself, and of care and ability in the conductor. The solo singing displayed some good qualities

of voice; in all cases a good pronunciation of the words was observable, and the vocalisation was sometimes more than respectable.

To those who have at heart the social improvement of the people, and the better cultivation of taste in the masses, it would be worth a serious consideration whether like entertainments could not be established, not only in various parts of London, but in every good-sized town in the provinces.

With a little preliminary aid it would be possible to make them self-supporting, by interesting the industrious classes themselves in their continuance; and in this movement the best professional talent should not be ashamed to associate itself. As a question of feeling, it would be a noble employment of the heavenly gift of rare talent to bestow it occasionally on those whose opportunities of enjoyment are so limited; as a matter of business, it could not fail in after years to produce the best results, arising from the increased practice and cultivation of taste in the divine art of music.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

YORK RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Fundas Stakes.—Ant gone, 1. Cantin Cornish, 2. Yorkshire Oaks.—Mayfair, 1. Misticote, 2. Convivial Stakes.—Metcra, 1. Alas, 2. Ebor St. Leger.—Sittingbourne, 1. Dearme, 2. Chesterfield Handicap.—Snowdon Dunhill, 1. Broughton, 2. Sweetstakes of 100 sovs each.—Adine, 1. King of Trumps, 2. Queen's Plate.—Torment, 1. Sharavogue, 2. Selling Stakes.—Colyman, 1. Blaneless filly, 2.

THURSDAY.

Colt Sapping Stakes.—Fras walked over. Prince of Wales Stakes.—Derish, 1. Alas, 2. Her Handicap.—Pantomime, 1. Nabob, 2. Hopetide Stakes.—Faversham, 1. Grapeshot, 2. County Plate.—King of Trumps, 1. Wild Huntsman, 2. Lottery Plate.—Cassio, 1. Luxurious, 2. Eglinton Stakes.—Exact, 1. Barrell, 2. Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—North Pole walked over.

ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON REGATTA.—The race for his Royal Highness Prince Albert's Cup terminated late on Monday evening, and was won by the *Morquillo*, beating the *Arrow* (by 2m.), *Julia* (by 4m. 41s.), *Amica* (by 10m. 1s.), and *Osprey* (by 12m.). On Tuesday, the annual regatta dinner of the members of the Club took place at the Club-house—the Earl of Wilton presiding.—On Wednesday, the cup presented by her Majesty was sailed for by the *Gloriana*, *Shark*, *Viking*, and *Yine*. This was won by the *Gloriana*.—On Thursday, a match took place for 200 sovs., between the *Rosalia* and *Gloriana*, the particulars of which have not come to hand; and on Friday, the Royal Yacht Squadron Cup was to be competed for by a full entry of the crack yachts.

ROYAL SOUTHERN YACHT CLUB.—The annual general meeting of this club was held at Southampton, on Saturday. Lord Cardigan, Commodore, was in the chair. On Tuesday evening the annual ball took place, which passed off in the usual agreeable style.

CRICKET.—The great match of the week—Kent v. England—took place at Canterbury, beginning on Monday, and closing on Wednesday. England in the first innings scored 324 runs; Kent in first innings 47, and in the second 98; leaving England the victor by one innings and 179 runs.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that the imports of bullion this week have been on a very extensive scale—they having amounted to about £1,500,000, chiefly in gold from Australia—the market for Consols, arising in a great measure, from the immense demand for money, and the steadily increasing rates of discount, has been rather inactive. However, prices have been fairly kept up. For Exchequer Bills there has been little or no inquiry, and the quotations of these securities have ranged from 3s. discount to par.

A most important statement of the movements in bullion, from the commencement of 1st year to the 1st of the present month, has been issued, and from which we learn that in the period above referred to, we imported in gold not less than £29,000,000; of silver, £6,452,407. On the 1st of January, 1852, the stock of gold in the Bank of England was £17,000,000; whilst it is now £17,250,000. Assuming that our circulating medium has increased by £2,452,407, we have had shipments quite equal to thirty millions sterling. Here is a decided proof, if that were wanting, that an overabundant supply of gold in the Bank cannot be apprehended.

On Monday, the value of Consols, owing to several large speculative sales, had a downward tendency. The Three per Cents were quoted at 98½ and 97½. Bank Stock was 22½. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 98½; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 101 to 4; Long Annuities, 3 15-16; India Bonds, 17s. to 22s. premium; Exchequer Bills, 3s. discount to par. India Stock was 257 to 259. There was rather more firmness in the market for national securities, both on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the Three per Cents were done at 98½—Exchequer Bills remaining at 3s. discount to par. On Thursday, when it became known that the Bank Court had broken up without any change in the rates of discount being announced, the demand for Consols increased, and the quotations improved one quarter per cent. The Three per Cents were 98 to 98½—closing steadily at the latter figure. The Three per Cents Reduced were 98½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 101½. Bank Stock, 22½. Exchequer Bills, 3s. discount to par.

The last accounts of the Bank of France show an increase in the stock of bullion of £35,000. In the bills discounted there has been a further augmentation of £194,000; but the advances on Securities and Railway Shares have decreased by £40,000.

On the whole, the Foreign House has ruled steady, and we have no material change to notice in the quotations.—Brazilian Bonds, Small, have been done at 101½; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents, Nov. 99½; Buenos Ayres, 60 and 67; Chilean Three per Cents, 80; Ecuador, 5½; Grenada, ex December Coupon, 22; the Deferred, 9½; Mexican Three per Cents, 26½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 43½ to 44; the Four per Cents, ex all overdue coupons, 41; the Three per Cents, 37; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 102; the Small, 102½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 90½; Spanish Three per Cents, 47½; the New Deferred, 23½; Spanish Certificates, 6½ per cent; and Dutch Four per Cents, 93½ and 98. We understand that Messrs. Gibbs and Co. have paid over to the agents of the Peruvian Government here £210,000, as the produce of the guano sales. There are now sufficient funds in hand to pay the dividends due in September and October next, and £100,000 to be employed in the purchase of Stock.

There has been a moderate business doing in Miscellaneous Securities, as follows:—Australasia Bank Shares, 81; British North America, 62; Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 2½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 10½; London Joint Stock, 26½; Oriental, 51; Union of Australia, 72; Union of London, 19½; Australian Agricultural, 84; British American Land, 65; Crystal Palace, 6½; General Steam-Ship Company, 12; London Dock, 124; Netherlands Land, 3 to 2½; North of Europe Steam, 8½ to 7½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 5½ to 6; Van Diemen's Land, 16½; Albion Insurance, 95; County, 125; Globe, 150 ex div.; Imperial Fire, 370; Law Life, 56; Pelican, 45; Phoenix, 185; Royal Exchange, 242; Sun Life, 65; Berlin Waterworks, 2½; East London, 128; Southward and Vauxhall, 89; West Middlesex, 113½ ex div.; Canada Bonds, 116; City Navigation Ditto, 95½; Hudson's Bay, 224; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, new, 29½; Royal Mail Steam, 72½.

The account in the Railway Share Market has been adjusted; but it has proved rather a heavy affair, as the supply of stock has considerably increased. Prices have been rather drooping. The following are the closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 5; Caledonian, 67½; Cork and Brandon, 20; Eastern Counties, 12½; Eastern Union B-Stock, 33; East Lancashire, 72½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 29; Great Northern, 84; Ditto A Stock, 61; Ditto B Stock, 133; Great Western, 89; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75½; Ditto Fifties, 11; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 84; London and North-Western, 112½ ex div.; Ditto Eighties, 2½ ex div.; London and South-Western, 86½ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 28; Midland, 71½; North Staffordshire, 12½ ex div.; North-Western, 8½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 64; Taff Vale, Preference No. 1, 152½; Watford and Kilkenny, 83; Waterford and Limerick, 39; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 68½; Ditto, G. N. E. Purchase, 9; York and North Midland, 59.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Northern and Eastern, 66; Royton and Hitchen, 148 ex div.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Union, Six per Cent, 20½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 3½; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 113½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland) Eighties, 83; Great Western Redeemable Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103½; Ditto, Irredeemable Four per Cent, 102; Lancashire and Yorkshire Six per Cent Stock, 150½; North Staffordshire, 26; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, Four per Cent, 103½.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 24½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 7½; Great Central of France, 10½; Luxembourg, 7½; Ditto, Guarantee, 3½; Madras, 9½; Northern of France, 36½; Paris and Lyons, 29½; Paris and Orleans, 40½; Paris and Rouen, 44½; Paris and Strasbourg, 40½; Rouen and Havre, 20½; Sambré and Meuse, 9½; Upper India Scrip, 1 prem.; West Flanders, 44.

Mining Shares have changed hands to a moderate extent. On Thursday, Agua Fria were 2; Anglo Californian, 2; Imperial Brazilian, 4½; St. John del Rey, 3½; Copiapo, 10½; English and Austrian Copper

Smelting Company, 2½; Great Nugget Vein, Scrip, 2½; Linares, 9½; Nouveau Monde, 1½; United Mexican, 4½.

MELBOURNE, 7th June, 1853.—Our market for the last six weeks has undergone considerable fluctuations; not so much as any depression of prices, but the obtaining extreme rates for articles of which the market had become quite bare; and the supplies of which, on arrival, were eagerly snatched up at almost any price the importers asked. We have now had an immense arrival of vessels from all quarters of the globe, yet these have had no very serious effect, as our prices current are so low, the goods being unable to come onto the market all at once owing to the extreme difficulty of landing. The business of the city is greatly impeded, owing to the want of lighters and the blockaded state of the river; and the wharf is so deep in mud, that goods are sometimes entirely lost in it; notwithstanding all this, the Government sit sleepily by, to the great detriment of the commerce and well-being of the country. It is, however, worthy of note and publicity, that the Government have erected two very large buildings (and pronounced good for twenty years) in seven days for the ball, whilst they have positively been seven months in erecting a wooden shed of about the same size on the wharf. Land, especially in the city, commands incredible prices; whilst buildings of every description are let for rents per annum that would suffice to build them and more at home.—From Messrs. Toolal and Brunne's Reports on the Australian Markets.

THE MARKETS.

CORN—JEN HANCOCK.—The present week's arrivals of English wheat have been seasonably good, and in excellent condition. For all kinds the demand has ruled heavy, at a decline of from 2s. to 5s. per quarter. A few lots of new wheat have appeared, and been disposed of at 50s. for Kent red, and 48s. for white, about 10s. per quarter. Foreign wheat—the 1st ports of which have been on a liberal scale—has moved off slowly, at 42s. per quarter less money. Very few cargoes have arrived from the westward. France has not a dull sale, but no change has taken place in the quotations. Mail has reached full prices. The arrival of oats having been very extensive, the trade has been inactive, at from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per quarter less money. Beans have fallen 1s. In the value of peas and flour no change has taken place. A few parcels of new peas have been on offer.

English.—Wheat, 1st and 2nd, 42s. to 43s.; ditto, white, 45s. to 46s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 43s. to 44s.; ditto, white, 45s. to 46s.; grinding barley, 28s. to 31s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; mowing, 28s. to 31s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 50s. to 62s.; brown ditto, 48s. to 51s.; Kingston and Wars, 6s. to 6s. 6d.; Chevalier, 6s. to 6s. 6d.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 15s. to 16s.; potato ditto, 21s. to 24s.; Voughal and Cork, black, 18s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 18s. to 22s.; tick beans, new, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; ditto, old, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; grey peas, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; mangel, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; white, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; bolton, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; quarter, Town-made flour, 4s. to 5s.; Suffolk, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; per 210 lb. Foreign: French flour, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per sack; American, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per barrel.

Second Handed.—Generally speaking, the demand has ruled inactive, at last week's prices. Cakes are in good request, but quite as dear.

Linned.—English, sowing, 28s. to 30s.; Baltic, crushing, 47s. to 50s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 48s. to 49s.; hempen, 28s. to 32s. per quarter, Coriander, 12s. to 14s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 8s. to 11s.; white, 10s. to 12s.; and tares, 4s. to 5s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed new, 42s. to 43s. per last of ten quarters. Linned cakes, English, 48s. to 50s. to 51s. 10s. to 42s. per quarter. English clover seed, 42s. to 43s. to 44s. to 45s. to 46s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 9½d. for household ditto, 4d. to 7d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 55s. 3d.; barley, 29s. 10d.; oats, 22s. 3d.; rye, 23s. 1d.; beans, 41s. 5d.; peas, 35s. 3d.

The Price of a Tonne of a Tonne.—Wheat, 31s. 6d.; barley, 29s. 5d.; oats, 21s. 8d.; rye, 35s. 9d.; beans, 4s. 8d.; peas, 6s.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—The shipments from China having exhibited a considerable increase over last year the demand for all kinds of tea is very active, and prices are barely supported. Common small Congou, 11d. to 11½d. per lb. Up to Saturday last duty was paid on 27,311,823 lb. of tea.

Sugar.—A very large business has been doing in this market, and prices have had an upward tendency. Fine yellow Barbadoes has changed hands at from 38s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; mid. to good, 38s. to 39s.; fair yellow Barbadoes, 38s. 6d. to 39s.; low to good, 38s. 6d. to 39s.; good to fine brown, 38s. to 39s. 6d.; soft yellow Barbadoes, 38s. 6d. to 39s.; mid. to good Barbadoes, 37s. to 38s. 6d.; low ditto, 36s. to 38s. 6d.; and low to good Madras, 38s. 6d. to 39s. 6d. per cwt.

Wool.—Since the close of the public sales there has been more doing in English wool, the prices of which have been slightly on the advance.

Refined goods.—Refined goods, at 4s. to 4s. 6d. for brown lumps, and 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. for low to fine grocery.

Coffee.—The market has been so briskly, at an advance of from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. Good ordinary Java is quoted at from 45s. 6d. to 46s. Foreign coffees are very firm, and in request.

Oil.—A full average business is doing in this article, at full quotations. About 2000 bags good white Bengal have changed hands, at from 12s. to 12s. 6d. per cwt.

Provisions.—All kinds of Irish butter are in very moderate request. In prices, however, very little alteration can be noticed. Foreign butter is lower to purchase. English is selling on former terms. Prime bacon is very firm. In all other kinds of provisions, very little is doing.

Tallow.—This article is heavy, and prices continue to decline. P.Y.C., on the spot, and for forward delivery, 55s. 6d. to 56s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 55s. net cash.

Glue.—The general demand is inactive, at barely last week's quotations. Linned, 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. Tar is higher, but turpentine is cheaper. Spirits of turpentine, 22s. 6d. in puncheons, 12s. 6d. per cwt.

Produce.—The market for corn continues steady, at the late advance. Proof Leeward's, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 1d.; and East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. A full average business is doing in tallow, at extreme rates. Geneva and corn spirits firm.

Cork.—Holywell, 18s.; Wylm, 18s.; Gilson, 18s. 3d.; Ellen Main, 18s. 9d.; Braddyll, 18s. 2d.; Hulton, 18s. 6d.; Haswell, 18s. 6d.; Lambton, 18s. 3d.; Eden, 18s. 6d.; South Kelloe, 18s. 6d.; Victoria Farm, 17s. 6d. per ton.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; new ditto, 22s. 10d. to 24s. 6d.; old clover ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; new ditto, 24s. 10d. to 25s. 10d.; and straw, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 16d. per load.

Hops.—The plantation accounts are still rather favourable, and the duty is called £150,000 to £155,000. The demand is heavy, and prices are barely supported. M1 and East Kent peckers, 12s. to 16s.; Weald of Kent, 11s. to 12s.; Sussex, 11s. to 12s. per cwt.

Wool.—Since the close of the public sales there has been more doing in English wool, the prices of which have been slightly on the advance.

Butter.—The supplies continue good, and in excellent condition. The demand is steady, at from 45s. to 100s. per ton.

Smoked.—With the exception of lambs having fallen in value 2d. per 8 lbs., the demand has ruled steady, and prices have been well supported.

Beef.—From 2s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; lamb, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs.; and the carcasses.

Neigate and Leadchall.—On the whole, a full average business has been doing, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d. per 8 lbs.; by the carcasses.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12.

WAR-OFFICE, AUGUST 12.

10th Light Dragoons: A. W. Gandell to be Cornet, vice Dr. 14th: Cornet H. T. Clements to be Lieutenant, vice Hon. R. W. Cherwynd. 15th: J. Stewart to be Cornet, vice Hon. H. Rowley.

12th Foot: J. Warren to be Ensign, vice Clutterbuck. 18th: Ensign W. J. Hales to be Lieutenant, vice Little. 24th: Robert Clampton Streetfield to be Ensign, vice Turner.

32nd: Assistant-Surgeon John Ogilvy, M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Macbeth. 40th: Lieut. A. C. K. Lock to be Capt., vice W. P. Elger. Ensign R. Blackall to be Lieut., vice Lock; J. W. Diamond to be Ensign, vice Blackall. 54th: Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class, J. M. Grant, M.D., to be Surge, vice Macpherson. 63rd: Lieut. E. R. C. Sheldon to be Capt., vice Cubitt; Ensign V. H. Bowles to be Lieut., vice Sheldon; Ensign J. H. Clutterbuck to be Ensign, vice Bowles. 71st: Lieut. Sir C. Watson, Bart., has been permitted to retire from the service by the sale of his commission.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class, vice Grant; F. L. Fitzgerald to be Assistant-Surgeon to the Forces, vice Ogilvy.

CHAPLAIN.—The Rev. G. W. Langmead to be a Commissioned Chaplain to the Forces.

COMMISSARIAT.—Commissioner Clerk H. J. Bravyngrig to be a Deputy-Assistant-Commissioner.

MEMORANDUM.—Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Cole, of the 63rd Foot, has been permitted to assume the name of Van Notten Pole, and should, therefore, be styled Arthur Van Notten Pole.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

F. STREET, Parkstone, Poole, coal-merchant. B. MIRASYEDI, Manchester, merchant.

BANKRUPTCIES.

R. BROOKS, Brixton Oval, picture-dealer. T. CULLINGWORTH, Woolley Mills, Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn miller. T. C. DAVENPORT, Birkenhead, Cheshire, coal-merchant.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

S. CLARKE, Exeter and Torquay, toyman.

BANKRUPTCIES.

J. C. JACKSON and A. F. HARRISON, Union-court, Old Broad-street, City, merchants. F. W. STRICKLAND, Kennington-croft, Kennington, and Symonds-lane, Chancery-lane, wine merchant. W. SMITH, High street, Shadwell, licensed victualler. W. BARTON, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington, licensed victualler. R. L. A. Grantham, Lincolnshire, draper. J. WILLIAMS, Wells, Somersetshire, paper maker. J. CORNISH, Tiverton Devonshire, grocer. W. LAYCOCK, Bradford, Yorkshire, luncheon. J. TATE, Darlington, Durham, iron merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

W. HENRY, Nethergate, Dundee, boot and shoe maker.

BIRTHS.